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OPINION METER
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INSIDE

NATION



A U.S. court has found that some applicants have been wrongly denied US citizenships.

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WORLD



Kenya declares an end to the four-day siege of a Nairobi mall by terrorists.

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Dream leads to domestic spat; 2 arrested. PAGE 5
Massive Pakistan quake kills 210. PAGE 17

CWs capped at 14K for 2014

» Only 1,000 less than the current 15,000
» Governor, Kilili look forward to 5-year CW extension

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security announced yesterday a limit of 14,000 non-immigrants under the transitional CNMI-only worker program for fiscal year 2014 starting on Oct. 1, a mere 6.66-percent cut from the current 15,000 cap.

This gives wiggle room for potential growth in the tourism-based economy and increased demand for qualified workers that the current U.S. labor pool

still cannot provide at this time.

The number of foreign workers under the CW program will drastically drop

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Tang named settlement fund trustee

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The Guam-based Civile & Tang law firm, though its principal representative Joyce C.H. Tang, was appointed yesterday as the trustee who will run the settlement fund that will be created under the



Tang

settlement agreement in Betty Johnson's class action.

"Although the court found all the nominees to be qualified, the court believes that Ms. Tang was the best overall candidate for the position, given her background and prior experience with the Retirement Fund," said U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood in her order.

The settlement agreement requires the

See TANG on Page 4

GOP endorses Inos-Torres

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

On the eve of his 64th birthday, Gov. Eloy S. Inos formally announced last night at a Republican Party of the NMI Association meeting that his running mate in the 2014 gubernatorial race is Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan).

An enthusiastic crowd of almost 200 applauded, and later formally accepted

the Inos-Torres tandem.

"This is IT," Republican Party president Jack Villagomez told the crowd, emphasizing a play on word with the first letters of the candidates' last names—Inos and Torres.

This came exactly a week after the Covenant Party membership decided to follow Inos back to the GOP and dissolve the Covenant Party.

Inos turns 64 today.

See INOS-TORRES on Page 4

» Governor holds 64th birthday fundraiser today



Gov. Eloy S. Inos, fourth from right, and Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider, third from left, join E Land and Suwaso Corp. executives and other CNMI officials in the ceremonial shoveling of dirt at the ground-breaking for Coral Ocean Point Resort Club's renovation yesterday. The renovation is part of E Land's estimated \$40 million total investments for the hotel.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

COP breaks ground on 1st phase of \$40M outlay

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Coral Ocean Point Resort Club broke ground yesterday on its initial \$4 million renovation that includes sprucing up the existing 80 rooms, the main building and swimming pool—part of an estimated \$40

million, multi-year investment plan under Suwaso Corp.

"This is only the beginning," Suwaso Corp. chief executive officer and president Seong Min Kang told a crowd of investors, government officials, and other community members at the groundbreaking.

See COP on Page 4



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Local

Roundtrip ticket awaits Las Vegas Night top seller

The 2013 Las Vegas Night is just around the corner and the Rotary Club of Saipan has a sweet incentive for whoever sells the most tickets for the non-profit's signature event of the year.

The club's president, Leila Y. Boyer, said that whoever sells

the most tickets for the Oct. 25 event will win a roundtrip ticket to either the Rotary district meeting in Tokyo, Japan, or the Rotary international meeting in Brisbane, Australia, later this year.

"So let's get those tickets sold," Boyer said Tuesday dur-

ing the local Rotary Club's regular weekly meeting at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

The 2013 Las Vegas Night, which will be held at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, has a Halloween theme this year, occurring just a couple of days before

trick-or-treat night.

Tickets for the event can be picked up at the *Marianas Variety* office in Garapan. There will also be ticket sales drives at the Thursday Market at the Garapan Fishing Base and the Joeten Superstore in San Jose every

Saturday. This past weekend, Boyer said she and Karl Reyes manned the Las Vegas Night booth at the former Price Costco and managed to sell 12 tickets.

Aside from all-time favorites Texas hold 'em and the craps table, the 2013 edition of the event will also see the return of

bingo, hosted by former Rotary Club president Ben Babauta.

When the clock strikes midnight on Oct. 26, the Rotary Club will draw the grand prize: a choice of either a 2014 Toyota Yaris, sponsored by Microl Toyota, or \$10,000 in cash. *(Mark Rabago)*



SWEARING IN

Newly confirmed Commonwealth Election Commission commissioners Frances M. Sablan, front row, second from right, and Trinidad L. Rabauli-man, front row, second from left, have their picture taken with Gov. Eloy S. Inos, center, after taking their oath of office on Sept. 25, 2013, at the governor's conference room. Others in photo are, front row, from left, CEC director Robert A. Guerrero and Attorney General Joey San Nicolas. Back row, from left, are CEC staff Frank Camacho, Kayla Igitol, and Julie Villagomez.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Deadline nears for community water systems

Community water systems are being reminded to submit their Consumer Confidence Report certification form to the Division of Environmental Quality by Oct. 1, 2013, certifying that they have distributed the CCR to their customers and that the information is correct and consistent with the compliance monitoring data previously submitted to DEQ.

CCR distribution methods include:

Mail or deliver one copy of the report to each customer

Systems that bill customers by mail should mail a copy of the CCR to each billed customer. Enough copies of the CCR should be sent to single billed customers that have multiple residential units, such as apartment buildings, so that each residential unit can receive a copy.

Bottle water companies should direct deliver the CCR to each of their customer's homes during home deliver of water, deliver copies of the CCR to retail outlets for distribution with retail sales, and post notices on bulk water retail tanks that the CCR is available upon request.

Community water systems serving 500 or fewer people may either post the CCR in an appropriate location for their resident workers, or post a notice that the CCR is available upon request.

Every community water system must make its CCR available to the public upon request.

Contact Safe Drinking Water program manager Jose M. Kaipat or SDW Branch staff Leilani S. Deleon Guerrero at 664-8500/01 for any questions. *(DEQ)*



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SIS, Johnson respond to BOE chairman's comment

By **THOMAS MANGLONA II**
CORRESPONDENT

A student's speech intended to highlight the successes and advantages of the Saipan International School has brewed up a tempest in a teapot, after it raised the hackles of a Public School System official who took exception to part of the speech.

In his remarks at SIS' 20th anniversary celebration on Sept. 18, 2013, SIS student and Student Council president Michael Johnson said, "At SIS you have an opportunity to walk in the headmaster's office anytime of the day and just have a casual conversation; you are lucky to get five minutes of the counselor's time at MHS," referring to the largest high school in the CNMI, Marianas High School.

Those few words—in a speech that was mostly laudatory of SIS' successes—provoked a harsh response from Board of Education chair Herman T. Guerrero, who said he was not pleased with the unfavorable comparison Johnson made between the two schools.

Guerrero told a newspaper (not *Saipan Tribune*) after the ceremony that he doesn't like

students "bashing" the Public School System. He added that despite PSS' large student population, the institution is still doing well.

"When you're bashing the school you're bashing the board, the students and the teachers," Guerrero was quoted as saying.

SIS headmaster Dr. Dale Jenkins didn't think Johnson was "bashing" anyone at all. He thought Johnson's speech was "one of the best student speeches" he has ever heard.

"I was deeply moved and I think he is certainly a gifted speaker...he certainly gave a great speech," Jenkins said. "We all have different perspectives and ways of incorporating things."

Jenkins said he plans to talk to Guerrero directly about the matter.

"We are missing the point of the story. The point of the story really is that Saipan International School is a successful institution. I think what we are trying to point out is that for 20 years we have been through difficult and enormous times on Saipan and we survived and even flourished," he said.

Guerrero later praised SIS for its successes but said he wants

to see the "evidence."

"What are their accomplishments in terms of competing with other schools in the Commonwealth?" Guerrero asked. He cited Mount Carmel School as an example and how they have topped mock trial competitions and the Attorney General's Cup in past years.

Jenkins pointed out, though, that schools shouldn't be compared and people should instead celebrate the accomplishments of all of the CNMI's children, regardless of the school they attend.

"If a student from SIS does something well, we would like to think that everybody celebrates it because these are children of our island. We must

celebrate the success of other schools," Jenkins said. "I am absolutely proud of the children on this island that are trying to do stuff and succeed. We have our share of successes, but comparing schools by activities like mock trial and the Attorney General's Cup is something that we don't do."

Jenkins shared that the SIS administration supports freedom of expression and does not review the speeches their students write. "We are confident in our students that they will tell the truth and he [Johnson] told the truth," he explained.

Johnson himself was startled at Guerrero's comments.

"The main point of my speech was to share my experience and

how SIS benefited me personally over previous schools that I have attended," Johnson told the *Saipan Tribune*. "I did not intend to bash anyone and I do not feel like I did."

"I have great respect for the Public School System and it surprised me that he would take it in that manner," he added.

Johnson's mother, Melia Johnson, also expressed disappointment with Guerrero's reaction.

"My son wrote and delivered a speech in celebration of the 20th anniversary of SIS. He did not go to the public, he did not go to the press, he has not started a 'bashing' campaign against MHS or PSS," she said in a letter to the editor. "I find it immature and disgraceful for

the BOE chairman to criticize a hard-working, intelligent and responsible student and young person of the CNMI. Instead of recognizing Michael as one of our young people who will obviously be able to contribute positively to our CNMI community and embrace him, Herman T. Guerrero has shown that as long as we continue to have leaders and members of our community with his short-sightedness and ignorance the CNMI is doomed."

Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan said she has not talked to Guerrero about the matter and declined to respond to the issue.

"I was not even at the event and I do not want to comment on what he expressed," she said.

13 Saipan beaches red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged 13 beach sites on Saipan and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

The affected sites are the Tanapag Meeting Hall, DPW Channel Bridge, south Puerto Rico dump, Micro Beach, Fi-esta Resort drainage, Hafa-Adai Hotel, Hafa-Adai drainage, Garapan Fishing Dock,

Garapan Beach, Garapan Beach drainage, Sugar Dock, CK Dist. 2 drainage, and San Antonio Beach.

Samples collected from these locations contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. (DEQ)



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Johnson asks for final approval of settlement agreement

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_deltorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Citing the extremely low number of objections and opt-outs, Betty Johnson, through her counsels, filed yesterday a motion for the final approval of her class action settlement agreement.

Johnson asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to enter an order granting certification of the settlement class under Federal

Rules of Civil Procedure and approving the settlement agreement.

Johnson said that only two class members filed objections to the settlement agreement by the Sept. 16, 2013, deadline.

"But one of the objectors advocates for final approval, so it is not, in fact, an objection to final approval. The other objection was filed on Sept. 16, 2013, one day after it was due," said Johnson's counsels, Robert M.

Hatch, Bruce Jorgensen, and Stephen C. Woodruff.

Also, Johnson counsels said, only 16 asked to be excluded from the settlement class by the Sept. 20, 2013, deadline, and only 13 are currently receiving benefits.

"The extremely low number of objections and opt-outs supports approval of the settlement," the lawyers said.

The suit has more than 4,000

class members.

"This is an overwhelmingly positive response, especially given the widespread publicity given to the case in the CNMI," the lawyers said.

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood tentatively approved the settlement agreement on Aug. 6, 2013.

Under the agreement, the Fund will transfer all of its assets to the settlement fund, which will be subject to the court's oversight.

The CNMI government has agreed to make annual payments sufficient to enable the settlement fund to pay no less than 75 percent of the class members' benefits.

In the event the government does not make its annual payments, the class can enforce a \$779 million consent judgment against the CNMI.

Johnson said if the settlement is not finally approved, the Fund will continue to make payments to the class members until it

runs out of money in June 2014.

In accordance with the court's order, Johnson said a class notice was sent by first class mail to all class members' last known address.

In total, Johnson said, the class notice was mailed to 4,399 class members and 330 proved undeliverable.

Tydingco-Gatewood is expected to grant the final approval of the settlement agreement during a hearing on Sept. 30, 2013.

CWS

From Page 1

to zero when the CW program ends on Dec. 31, 2014, which could spell disaster for a recovering CNMI economy.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) separately welcomed yesterday the 14,000 cap but, at the same time, hope for a favorable response from the U.S. Labor secretary on their request to extend CW program by five years—up to 2019.

Without such an extension, the CNMI loses immediate access to some 12,000 foreign workers after 2014.

"Based on the current rate of development and the need for workers, we feel that 14,000 might be adequate," the governor told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview at Coral Ocean Point Resort Club's renovation groundbreaking yesterday.

DHS' new cap is close enough to what Inos earlier asked for—

about 14,100—to accommodate the increased need for workers now that the CNMI economy is recovering buoyed by record number tourist arrivals.

"While we appreciate having the number [14,000] at this time, we're still concerned about whether or not this pool of CW workers would still be available in 2014; hence the need for an extension. That's another hurdle. We're seeking some guidance from the U.S. Department of Labor as to some final decision. Hopefully a favorable one that will allow us to basically utilize the 14,000 that we have either next year or the year following that," Inos added.

Training, hiring US workers

Inos said the CNMI won't be relying only on foreign workers, pointing out that his administration has formed a task force that will look at the manpower needs of the hotel industry "and try to find ways to get local workers employed."

Inos said that by having as much U.S. workers trained and employed, the CNMI would not "sing this song again" years from now.

"We have to prepare for that [end of a possible five-year extension]. At least that's one of the criticisms about this extension—that it will just never allow us to be ready for this thing but we want to press the issue and we want to see a gradual decrease in the number of CW workers [and] a gradual increase in local workforce in those same position and industry," the governor said.

Sablan, in a separate statement yesterday, said he was satisfied with the number.

"This cut will increase the pressure to give jobs to qualified U.S. workers, which is our long-term goal. Businesses will have to do more to recruit local workers. And our government and educational system will have to do more to train local workers for jobs in the Northern Mariana Islands economy. At

the same time, USCIS is continuing to provide some room for economic growth," the delegate said.

USCIS stands for U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, an agency within DHS that handles immigration benefits.

DHS published the notice about the fiscal year 2014 cap for CW workers in the Sept. 25 edition of the Federal Register.

A pre-publication version of the notice is available for viewing online at <https://s3.amazonaws.com/public-inspection.federalregister.gov/2013-23289.pdf>.

CW program

Under the CW-1 program, employers in the CNMI can apply for temporary permission to employ foreign nationals who are ineligible for any existing employment-based nonimmigrant category under the Immigration and Nationality Act.

The CW program is in effect until Dec. 31, 2014, during which time the CNMI's nonres-

ident worker program is being transitioned to the U.S. federal immigration system.

This transition period was established by the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008, which extended, for the first time, most provisions of U.S. immigration law to the CNMI.

The annual CNRA-required reduction in CW-1 workers will eliminate the CW nonimmigrant classification by the end of the transition period.

DHS said its announcement does not affect the status of current CW-1 workers unless their employer files for an extension of their current authorized period of stay or they seek to change CW-1 employer.

Approved petitions that request a work-start date in fiscal year 2014—between Oct. 1, 2013, and Sept. 30, 2014—will count toward the 14,000 limit.

The numerical limit applies only to CW-1 principals. It does not directly affect persons currently holding CW-2 status, which is for spouses and minor children of

CW-1 non-immigrants.

"However, CW-2 nonimmigrants may be indirectly affected because their status depends upon that of the principal CW-1," DHS said.

A numerical limit of 15,000 CW-1s was set for fiscal year 2013.

As of Aug. 13, 2013, employers in the CNMI filed petitions for at least 7,323 transitional workers.

Investigations

Echoing the governor's concerns, Sablan said he remains concerned about striking the right balance that puts local workers in jobs and still allows the economy to grow.

He said for that reason, he has written to USCIS Director Alejandro Mayorkas, asking for an update on efforts the agency announced last year to step up investigations of employers who are alleged to be hiring CW workers while turning away U.S. workers who are qualified for jobs.

COP

From Page 1

Suwaso Corp.'s majority owner is the South Korean-based giant E Land, through Micronesian Resort Inc.

After the renovation work on existing facilities, the next phase is the construction of 200 to 300 new rooms, among other things.

Kang said that E Land expects to gain the CNMI's trust

with its investment plans and contributions to the community.

"This is because the core of E Land's company value is about giving back to the local community through its successful business operations wherever we do business. We seek to succeed not just for profit, but to give back and make positive changes," Kang told the crowd.

Taeho Kim, chief operating officer of Micronesia Resort Inc., briefed the crowd about the initial renovation plans that

also cover the golf cart parking lot, golf carts, and public beach improvements.

Once the renovations and future additions of new rooms are completed, Coral Ocean Point will be among the best, just like what it was when it first opened some 20 years ago, Kim added.

E Land Construction Co., E Land Design Co., and E Land Development Co. will be fully involved in this development project.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos said he

appreciates E Land/Suwaso Corp.'s show of commitment to the CNMI and is pleased to know about E Land's investment commitment of some \$40 million.

"Despite the many economic challenges, there are still substantial investment capitals for projects like this when entrepreneurs have a vision and an idea of success. These days, we see promising signs for our tourism industry and we must work together to sustain this

momentum," the governor told the crowd.

The governor said Coral Ocean Point's renovation is "very timely" as hotel occupancy is starting to post record-high numbers and the demand for more hotel rooms has increased.

Tourist arrivals to the CNMI reached 400,000 in August, already exceeding the arrival levels seen in 2006 when Japan Airlines was still flying to the CNMI from its main market of Japan.

Inos said he looks forward to the completion of Coral Ocean Point's projects.

"After we break ground today and after seeing the completion of this project by the end of the year, I also would like to say that I look forward to groundbreaking the next phase of the project... We look forward to that event—groundbreaking, ribbon cutting, groundbreaking, ribbon cutting—that's the way it should be," the governor said.

TANG

From Page 1

court to appoint the trustee, possessing all the powers of a federal receiver.

With the appointment, Tang will be vested with the power and authority provided under

Rule 70 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure to perform all acts necessary to comply with the settlement agreement, said Tydingco-Gatewood.

She said the trustee shall serve for as long as necessary to implement the settlement agreement, or until the trustee asks to be relieved and the request is

approved by the court.

As trustee, Tang will be paid at a rate of \$250 per hour, subject to future increases approved by the court. The money will come out of the settlement fund, said Tydingco-Gatewood.

Among the trustee's powers and responsibilities is to appoint an administrator or acting

administrator to be the chief executive officer of the settlement fund, and to direct the administrator to carry out the policy decisions of the trustee.

The CNMI government, the NMI Retirement Fund, and Johnson nominated seven candidates for trustee: Tang, former Fund administrator Richard Vil-

lagomez, Guam-based attorney Michael J. Berman, Guam attorney Mitchell F. Thompson, Hawaii-based attorney and special counsel to Chapter 13 Hawaii bankruptcy trustee William J. Plum, Guam-based Chapter 7 bankruptcy trustee Mark J. Heath, and Guam Housing and Urban Renewal Authority board

of commissioners chair David J. Sablan.

Tydingco-Gatewood said she interviewed all seven.

Attorney Margery Bronster, one of the counsels for Johnson, nominated Tang for the trustee position.

Civille & Tang is currently the Fund's trustee *ad litem*.

INOS-TORRES

From Page 1

He will hold a \$50-per-plate birthday fundraiser at the Fiesta Resort & Spa tonight, wherein the GOP is expected to present him with a birthday cake as a "symbolic gesture" of welcoming him back, said Villagomez.

Torres, in an interview after the announcement, said he's "honored" that the governor

picked him as his running mate.

The Senate president said he looks forward to continue working with the governor to address the issues facing the CNMI, as well as in reuniting the Republican Party.

He capped his brief remarks with "Biba Republican" and the crowd went along with him.

Inos, for his part, said he's "very happy" to see people coming back to the Republican Party "for a purpose, and that purpose is to see if we can col-

lectively work together to address the problems that we're facing in our islands."

The governor said the GOP is "a formidable party."

For several years, the Republican Party has been broken and splintered in so many ways.

"We have to come back to the Republican Party. It's a formidable party, we just need to put the pieces together and I think we're succeeding in that regard. Hopefully, we will have our friends who are still

out there who have not made a final decision to finally come on board and I hope that tonight's action would allow for that," he told reporters.

Last night's crowd at Garapan Central Park pavilion comprised of members who have not left the GOP, returning GOP members, and new ones. They included former and current government officials such as Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider, business persons, and other members of

the community.

Inos also said returning to the GOP "is for a common cause."

"It's not just a political move, it's a move that hopefully would address collectively the challenges that the CNMI is facing. We are on the right track. We're making a lot of progress. We've identified what is it that we need to do and I'm happy, I feel good that with this kind of collaboration, we will solve the many issues facing our islands," he added.

Republican members from Rota and Tinian also took part in the meeting, wherein members adopted the amended party bylaws.

Villagomez also announced that former speaker Oscar M. Babauta, campaign chairman of the former Covenant Party, is a GOP senatorial candidate in 2014.

Besides Inos, other possible contender for governor in the 2014 elections is former House speaker Heinz Hofschneider.

PSS eyes \$3M grant to improve instructional services

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

The Public School System, in partnership with the Mid-Continent Research for Education and Learning, or McREL, has submitted a grant application to the U.S. Department of Education that, if approved, will bring the public schools over \$3 million in new funding.

Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan told *Saipan Tribune* that this is the first time for Commonwealth public schools to explore a new federal funding opportunity designed to help school districts effectively implement Common Core standards.

Common Core standards define the knowledge and skills

students should learn from kindergarten to grade 12 so that when they graduate high school, they are ready for entry-level, credit-bearing academic college courses and workforce training programs.



Sablan

Sablan said the PSS proposal was submitted to the Institute of Education Sciences, an organization within USDOE, last Sept. 8.

"The proposal we submitted to USDOE through IES is a grant application that would allow us to continually improve the delivery of instructions on the Common Core standards for English, language arts, and math primarily focusing on a 90-day learning cycle and continuous improvement process that would help us improve the delivery of instruc-

tion in primary grades," she explained.

If PSS succeeds in getting the grant, Sablan said it will be used to implement Common Core standards next school year 2014-2015.

According to Sablan, the \$3 million is a three-year grant specifically designed for in-depth knowledge and research on Common Core standards.

PSS began enforcing the Common Core standards for English, language arts, and mathematics in school year 2011, aligning PSS with 48 U.S. states and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

The Common Core state standards initiative is a state-led effort coordinated by the National Governors Associa-

tion Center for Best Practices and the Council of Chief State School Officers.

According to its proponents, the standards are aligned with college and work expectations;

are clear, understandable and consistent; include rigorous content and application of knowledge through high-order skills; build upon strengths and lessons of current state

standards; are informed by other top performing countries, so that all students are prepared to succeed in the global economy and society; and are evidence-based.

Dream leads to domestic spat; 2 arrested

A woman's dream about her boyfriend having an affair triggered a brawl between the two at their house in Garapan last week. Both were arrested.

Parvej MD. Barpery, 43, was arrested for assault and battery and disturbing the peace. Daisina Suda, 40, was arrested for assault with a dangerous weapon, assault and battery, and disturbing the peace. Both posted bail.

Detective Therese S. Kinto-

ki's report states that police received a call about a disturbance along Puti Tainobu Avenue in Garapan on Sept. 16 at 8:10am.

Kintoki said preliminary investigation showed that Barpery had just come home from work when Suda told him she dreamt of him having an affair. That provoked an angry exchange between the two that escalated into a fight.

Barpery allegedly punched Suda several times and pulled

her hair. Suda, on the other hand, grabbed a knife twice but her daughter managed to wrest it from her. Suda also allegedly threw rocks at Barpery but failed to hit him.

A separate report filed by police detective Steven N. Dela Cruz stated that it was Suda who first slapped Barpery in the face.

Suda left the house after Barpery told her he would call the police. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

Woman sues for fall

A 57-year-old woman is suing for the injuries that she allegedly suffered after slipping and falling on the floor of the Mobil gas station in Garapan in July.

Soledad Duenas, through counsel Victorino DLG. Torres, is suing Mobil Oil Mariana Islands Inc. and AA Enterprises Inc., for alleged negligence and violation of the Consumer Protection Act.

Duenas is demanding an unspecified amount of damages. She sought for attorney's and court costs and asked for a jury trial.

Saipan Tribune tried but failed to get comments from Mobil and AA Enterprises yesterday.

Torres stated in the complaint

that Duenas went to the Mobil station in Garapan on July 7, 2013, to buy food from the McDonald's Restaurant inside the gas station.

Torres said that Duenas slipped and fell on the wet slippery floor as she was leaving the building via the rear exit.

The lawyer said there were no protective carpet where Duenas fell and that there were no signs to warn customers or guests of the slippery floor.

He said Duenas sustained injuries from the incident that required hospitalization.

Torres said the defendants failed to exercise reasonable care to maintain its premises and its floor in a safe condition. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)



PUBLIC NOTICE



Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Thirteenth CNMI State Board of Education hereby gives notice that there will be a Special Board Meeting on Friday, September 27, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. at the BOE Conference Room in Bwughos Street, Susupe, Saipan.

AGENDA

- I. Preliminary
 1. Call to Order
 2. Roll Call
 3. Adoption of Agenda
 4. Adoption of Minutes
- II. Public Comments¹
- III. Reports
 1. Chair
 2. Board Committees
 - a. FPA
 3. Commissioner of Education
 - a. Financial Status Reports
 - i. Federal
 - ii. Local
 - b. Other matters
- IV. Unfinished Business
- V. New Business
 1. Head Start FY 2013 Triennial Review Corrective Action Plan.
 2. Proposed Final Regulation: §60-20-412 Entrance Age.
 3. FY14 Nutrition Assistance Grant Amendment re Summer Food Service Program.
 4. Education Month Proclamation 2014.
 5. McREL/PSS Proposal re A Partnership for Continuous Improvement in Education: Disciplined, short Cycle, and R & D Driven.
 6. PSS Salary Adjustment for Employees below Federal Minimum Wage.
- VI. Executive Session²
 1. Legal Updates
 2. Personnel/Certification
 3. Other matters
- VII. Administrative Matters
 1. Certification & Licensure Matters
 - a. Endorsement of Certification & Licensure Office Recommendations
- VIII. Discussion of Agenda for next Board meeting
- IX. Adjournment

¹Pursuant to BOE Policy 0415, public comments are limited to 30 minutes. We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments.
²Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Board may vote to meet in executive session at any time.



6th Annual

Saipan Chamber of Commerce/Steven Brownstein

GOLF CLASSIC



LAO LAO BAY

GOLF & RESORT

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2013

SHOW TIME: 6:00 A.M. + SHOTGUN START: 7:00 A.M. + BANQUET GUESTS: \$20.00/PERSON

EARLY REGISTRATION FEE: \$99.95/PERSON
(INCLUSIVE OF GREEN FEE, PRIZES, AWARDS BANQUET)

All Par 3's have Hole-in-one and Closest-to-the-pin Awards

Long Drive Contest
Hole #2 Cash Prize

TWO-PERSON
SCRAMBLE

TEAM PRIZES	
LOW GROSS	
1.	\$ 1,000.00
2.	\$ 600.00
3.	\$ 400.00

MEN'S LOW NET (DOUBLE PEORIA)	
1.	\$ 1,000.00
2.	\$ 600.00
3.	\$ 400.00

WOMEN'S LOW NET (DOUBLE PEORIA)	
1.	\$ 1,000.00
2.	\$ 600.00
3.	\$ 400.00

HOLE #7

\$20,000

Bank of Hawaii

CLOSEST-TO-THE-PIN AWARD

IT&E
Life in Motion
PACKAGE

HOLE #13

Yamaha Golf Cart

Joeten Motor Company, Inc.

CLOSEST-TO-THE-PIN AWARD

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AIR LINES
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HOLE-IN-ONE SPONSORS

HOLE #3

\$5,000 / AON

\$5,000 / T&A

CLOSEST-TO-THE-PIN AWARD

CASH

HOLE #17

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CLOSEST-TO-THE-PIN AWARD

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Awards Banquet at Lao Lao Bay Golf & Resort Poolside immediately following tournament

Guest \$20.00 per person

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NMC receives funds to continue College Access Program

JENNIFER DOCKTER
Law Office of F. Matthew Smith, LLC
2nd Floor, MIC Building, Chalan Monsignor Guerrero
San Jose Village
P.O. Box 501127
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No.: (670) 234-7455/234-7427
Facsimile No.: (670) 234-7256

Attorneys for Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH
DEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY,
Plaintiff,
vs. Civil Action
No. 03-0352D

ANGYUTA SHIPPING
COMPANY, LTD.,
FIDEL A. MENDIOLA,
FERMINA S. MENDIOLA,
FIDEL S. MENDIOLA, JR.,
CELESTE S. MENDIOLA,
and the Estate of
DIMAS A. HOCOS,
JUAN M. AYUYU, and
DANIEL D. SASAKURA,
Defendants.

NOTICE OF AUCTION

The Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, CNMI Marshal, or any other person authorized by law hereinafter referred to as auctioneer, and the Development Corporation Division of the Commonwealth Development Authority, hereinafter referred to as CDA, hereby give notice that all of the right, title, and interest of the Defendants Fidel S. Mendiola, Jr. and Fermina S. Mendiola, in the following described, real properties situated in Rota, CNMI will be sold at an auction:

Lot No. 345 R 215, an containing an area of 1,020 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat Number 345 R 05, dated May 11, 1984, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference;

and

Tract No. 22080, situated in Mua, Rota, CNMI, containing an area of 42,813 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing Cadastral Plat No. 2004/77, the original of which was registered with the Land Registry as Document No. 7211, on March 1, 1978;

The auction sale will be open to the general public and will be held at the CDA Building, First Floor Conference Room, Oloai, Saipan, at **2:00 p.m., on Friday, September 27, 2013**, subject to the following announced terms and conditions:

- Minimum Bid. No minimum opening bid.**
- Reserve.** The auction shall be held with reserve.
- Rights and Duties of Auctioneer.** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auctions with reserve, auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction:
 - To withdraw the property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted;
 - To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
 - To reject, on behalf of the seller, any and all bids.

Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Manuel A. Sablan, Executive Director, Commonwealth Development Authority, P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7145, Fax: 235-7147; or to F. Matthew Smith, P.O. Box 501127, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.

Deposit Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to CDA.

Change of Terms. Auctioneer and CDA reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.

Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact CDA for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of Fidel S. Mendiola Jr., and Fermina S. Mendiola in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty, and subject to the redemption laws of the CNMI. Failure to inspect the real property or its title will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

Dated this 21st day of August 2013.

/s/ JAMES C. DELEON GUERRERO, Commissioner
Department of Public Safety

JENNIFER DOCKTER
Law Office of F. Matthew Smith, LLC
2nd Floor, MIC Building, Chalan Monsignor Guerrero
San Jose Village
P.O. Box 501127
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No.: (670) 234-7455/234-7427
Facsimile No.: (670) 234-7256

Attorneys for Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH
DEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY,
Plaintiff,
vs. Civil Action
No. 10-0162

HENRY ERNEST U.
HOFSCHEIDER,
Defendants.

NOTICE OF AUCTION

The Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, CNMI Marshal, or any other person authorized by law hereinafter referred to as auctioneer, and the Development Corporation Division of the Commonwealth Development Authority, hereinafter referred to as CDA, hereby give notice that all of the right, title, and interest of the Defendant Henry Ernest U. Hofschneider in the following described, real properties situated in Tinian, CNMI will be sold at an auction:

Lot No. 119 T 18, containing an area of 2,764 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Subdivision Plat of Lot No. 119 T 09, DLS Check No. 119 T 02, and filed with the Commonwealth Recorder on March 13, 1987, as File No. 87-0764, including all existing and future improvements on the said property

and

Lot No. 119 T 19, containing an area of 2,764 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Subdivision Plat of Lot No. 119 T 09, DLS Check No. 119 T 02, and filed with the Commonwealth Recorder on March 13, 1987, as File No. 87-0764, including all existing and future improvements on the said property;

The auction sale will be open to the general public and will be held at the CDA Building, First Floor Conference Room, Oloai, Saipan, at **2:00 p.m., on Friday, September 27, 2013**, subject to the following announced terms and conditions:

- Minimum Bid. No minimum opening bid.**
- Reserve.** The auction shall be held with reserve.
- Rights and Duties of Auctioneer.** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auctions with reserve, auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction:
 - To withdraw the property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted;
 - To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
 - To reject, on behalf of the seller, any and all bids.
- Bids.** Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Manuel A. Sablan, Executive Director, Commonwealth Development Authority, P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7145, Fax: 235-7147; or to F. Matthew Smith, P.O. Box 501127, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.
- Deposit Payment.** A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to CDA.

Change of Terms. Auctioneer and CDA reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.

Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact CDA for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of Henry Ernest U. Hofschneider in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty, and subject to the redemption laws of the CNMI. Failure to inspect the real property or its title will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

Dated this 21st day of August 2013.

/s/ JAMES C. DELEON GUERRERO, Commissioner
Department of Public Safety

JENNIFER DOCKTER
Law Office of F. Matthew Smith, LLC
2nd Floor, MIC Building, Chalan Monsignor Guerrero
San Jose Village
P.O. Box 501127
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No.: (670) 234-7455/234-7427
Facsimile No.: (670) 234-7256

Attorneys for Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH
DEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY,
Plaintiff,
vs. Civil Action
No. 11-0178

JOAQUIN H. BORJA and
SOOK M. BORJA,
Defendants.

NOTICE OF AUCTION

The Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, CNMI Marshal, or any other person authorized by law hereinafter referred to as auctioneer, and the Development Corporation Division of the Commonwealth Development Authority, hereinafter referred to as CDA, hereby give notice that all of the right, title, and interest of the Defendants Joaquin H. Borja and Sook M. Borja in the following described, real properties situated in Tinian, CNMI will be sold at an auction:

Lot 118 T 05, containing an area of 1,189 square meters, more or less, as shown on Plat No. 118 T 01 and recorded under File No. 11984;

and

Lot 006 T 24, containing an area of 966 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat Number 006 T 01 dated April 29, 1983, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference;

The auction sale will be open to the general public and will be held at the CDA Building, First Floor Conference Room, Oloai, Saipan, at **2:00 p.m., on Friday, September 27, 2013**, subject to the following announced terms and conditions:

- Minimum Bid. No minimum opening bid.**
- Reserve.** The auction shall be held with reserve.
- Rights and Duties of Auctioneer.** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auctions with reserve, auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction:
 - To withdraw the property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted;
 - To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
 - To reject, on behalf of the seller, any and all bids.
- Bids.** Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Manuel A. Sablan, Executive Director, Commonwealth Development Authority, P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7145, Fax: 235-7147; or to F. Matthew Smith, P.O. Box 501127, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.
- Deposit Payment.** A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to CDA.
- Change of Terms.** Auctioneer and CDA reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
- Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact CDA for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of Joaquin H. Borja and Sook M. Borja in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty, and subject to the redemption laws of the CNMI. Failure to inspect the real property or its title will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

Dated this 21st day of August 2013.

/s/ JAMES C. DELEON GUERRERO, Commissioner
Department of Public Safety

The U.S. Department of Education recently informed the Northern Marianas College that its application to continue the College Access Challenge Grant Program has been approved.

The CNMI College Access Challenge Grant program is a community collaborative effort aimed at helping students who are Native Pacific Islanders and come from low-income families in the Commonwealth to enroll, remain, and succeed in college. This is the fifth year that the college is administering

Dr. Chad Lowe, left, speaks to students about his college experience at a Start Smart event hosted by the Northern Marianas College's College Access Challenge Grant.

NMC

the grant program.

"The college has been able to assist thousands of CNMI students through the programs made available by the College Access Challenge Grant," said NMC president Dr. Sharon Hart. "We are extremely glad that our grant application has been renewed and that we can continue promoting college enrollment and success on Tinian, Rota, and Saipan."

According to Tim Baker, director of Counseling Programs and Services and project director for the CACG program, the grant award is for \$1.4 million.

"This is a very competitive grant, and we are pleased that the U.S. Department of Education has recognized the great progress we continue to make in helping students succeed in their academic journeys," said Baker.

"Just this year, we helped more than 700 students receive need-based scholarships through the CACG Scholarship Program," added Baker. "That's more than 10 times the number of students that received these scholarships only five years ago."

According to the Baker, the CACG program has also helped thousands of other students through events like the Start Smart Seminar, the Cash for College Workshop, the Climb

Higher Summit, and the CACG Summer Academy.

The Start Smart brings all the seniors from all the public high schools of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota and provides them a forum to learn about preparing for college, financial aid options, and different career opportunities. The Cash for College Workshop is organized to assist students identify financial aid sources to help pay for their college expenses. In the last Cash for College workshop, more than 400 students attended.

The Climb Higher Summit provides nontraditional students, who are usually older and who possess a part-time or full-time job, with the information they need to earn their degrees through the availability of flexible class schedules, more financial aid options, and other resources that are specifically designed for individuals are trying to balance work, family, and personal commitments.

The Summer Academy affords high school students an opportunity to gain meaningful college experience while they are earning transferable college credits. The Academy familiarizes students with college life while they are still in high school and can be an excellent way to help students prepare for their eventual transition to college after graduation. (NMC)

JKPL welcomes new librarian intern

The CNMI's state library recently welcomed the addition of Lauren Bartell as intern librarian.

She said she is happy to be helping out at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, which she describes as the best library in Micronesia.

Even as more people do their research using the Internet, Bartell said the importance of brick and mortar libraries like JKPL remain. Digital books, especially for young readers, could not replace the feel of paper ones, she added.

However, Bartell said JKPL's



Bartell

acquisition of digital and electronic titles would help supplement its over 64,000 items.

Bartell hails from Detroit, Michigan and holds a master's degree in library information services. She used to be the academic librarian of the Davenport University in Livonia, Michigan.

She says she moved to Saipan six months ago to be with her husband, who works for a federal agency.

For more information about the CNMI state library, visit JKPL during its regular hours, Tuesday to Friday, from 10am to 6pm, and Saturday from 9am to 4pm. The library is closed on Sundays, Mondays, and holidays. Call the library at 235-7316 or 7322 or visit its website, www.cnmilibrary.com. (Mark Rabago)

Thomas E. Clifford
Attorney at Law
2nd Floor, Alexander Building, San Jose
P.O. Box 506514
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. (670) 235-8846
Fax (670) 235-8848

Attorney for Petitioner Elliz Anne Pinkerton Camacho

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter of) CIVIL ACTION
THOMAS DAVID) NO. 13-0190
PINKERTON,) NOTICE OF HEARING

Deceased.) PETITION FOR:
) 1) TRANSFER OF
) DECEDENT'S
) PERSONALTY; and
) 2) APPOINTMENT
) OF GENERAL
) GUARDIAN FOR
) MINOR CHILD
) T.R.L.P.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the foregoing petition shall come on for hearing on the 8th day of October, 2013 at 1:30 p.m.

The purpose of the hearing is for the Court to appoint a general guardian for minor child T.R.L.P., the minor child of the deceased. The Petitioner also seeks a Court order transferring the limited personality of the deceased to her for the care and support of the minor child.

DATE: September 24, 2013

/s/ Clerk of Court, Patrick V. Diaz

Name: JOHN DUHON & MIRI DUHON
P.O. Box 10000 PMB 970
Saipan, MP 96950

Telephone No.: 670-287-1444

PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANAS ISLANDS

In the Matter of the) FCD-AD-CIVIL
Adoption of:) ACTION
(VICTORIA TAEYANG) NO. 13-0451
KIM DUHON))

Minor Child)
By: JOHN H. DUHON) NOTICE OF
MIRI K. DUHON) HEARING
Petitioner(s))
)

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on October 28, 2013 at 1:30 p.m. in Courtroom 205A, before Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo.

Dated this 19 day of September, 2013.

Clerk of Court
/s/
By: Deputy Clerk of Court

PSS gets a new nutritionist

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

One of the hard-to-fill positions at the Public School System has finally been filled

following the hiring of nutritionist Kaisa Anderson, who was introduced to the Board of Education on Friday.

Anderson is a registered dietitian who obtained her bachelor's degree in Nutrition at the Utah State University in Logan, Utah. She completed an internship working with WIC participants; was a clinical dietitian for Jordan Valley Medical Center; counseled kidney dialysis patients at Liberty Dialysis; and worked in Food and Nutrition Services for Jordan School District.

When asked about her priorities as the new nutritionist for public schools, she replied: "I hope to implement support to teachers for nutrition education in the classrooms. It is so important to promote healthy eating and activity for the students of [the] CNMI. It is everyone's goal that our kids grow up healthy and strong."

Anderson's arrival is welcome news for PSS, which has been operating without a nutritionist since last year after the departure of Dianne Esplin. Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan said that Anderson's entry will ensure that the implementation of PSS' wellness policy and nutrition education programs will be back in

order, as they should be. Having a nutritionist, according to Sablan, will ensure that public school students are eating nutritious meals. Anderson, she added, will make sure that PSS' menus are consistent with federal guidelines.

PSS serves 14,000 breakfast and lunch meals daily to public and private schools.

According to Sablan, PSS



Anderson

has been periodically reviewing the food menus offered to students. She disclosed that the next review is in January, during which potential changes may be decided.

In May this year, some Board of Education officials disclosed that school meals are turning off students, prompting the board to call for a comprehensive review of the existing menus. They said the revision of school meals is necessary to prevent wasting funds on food items that children just throw away.

School meals in both public and private schools are funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

According to Sablan, revising the school menu is always a possibility each year but there must be a survey or study that needs to be conducted first that will support the desired change.

CUC vows to keep persuading unconnected large customers

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. will continue its efforts to persuade commercial customers to connect to the utilities grid, according to its executive director, Alan W. Fletcher, yesterday.

This comes after the House Committee on Public Utilities and Transportation and Communications recommended shelving the CUC-backed House Bill 18-41, which proposes to require businesses to hook up to CUC's power grid.

"While CUC is supportive of the bill, we will respect the committee's action. CUC is committed to continue working with unconnected commercial customers to persuade them to connect to the system," Fletcher told *Saipan Tribune*.

Fletcher said there are currently 12 major self-generating businesses on Saipan, representing a disconnected load of 9.9 megawatts. When compared to Saipan's current connected utility load, he said this represents 26 percent of the total island load.

"CUC believes that connecting these loads would help to lessen potential health risks and nuisances caused by running generators. In addition, the extra business will help all consumers by spreading out fixed costs to a

larger base, thereby easing electrical utility rates," Fletcher said.

The CPUC committee endorsed shelving the bill after determining that requiring large commercial customers such as hotels to connect to the CUC grid at this time is not reasonable, expressing doubts about the capability of CUC to provide a stable power supply.

In July this year, CUC's power generation reached a peak of 74MW on Saipan—a level that CUC officials described as sufficient to meet the required energy reserve for the island.

From April 2012 through March 2013, CUC generated a monthly capacity of 74.9MW and recorded a peak demand of 35.30MW, leaving the agency with 112-percent reserve margin or extra generation capacity for unanticipated incidents.

Unlike in the U.S. where required reserve margin is at least 15 percent, other utilities like CUC has to maintain a reserve energy of 50 percent to 75 percent because it cannot purchase electricity from other utilities in times of emergencies.

The sufficient power production is attributed to the progress made in rehabilitating and upgrading the engines of CUC's Power Plant 1, which used to produce only 9MW in 2009 compared to its present production capacity of 62MW.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Statewide Independent Living Council

"Yes I Can!"

P.O. BOX 501521, SAIPAN, MP 96950; TEL: (670) 322-6537/8 FAX: (670) 322-6536
TTY: (670) 322-6449; E-MAIL: nmidir@ovrgov.net

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC §9910, the public is advised that the Statewide Independent Living Council will hold its FY 2013 Fourth General Membership Meeting on Monday, September 30, 2013 from 8:30 – 11:30 am at the Aqua Resort Club. Interested individuals are welcome to attend.

AGENDA

- I. **Call to Order**
- II. **Roll Call**
- III. **Review & Adoption of Agenda**
- IV. **Review and Adoption of FY 2013 Third General Membership Meeting Minutes of May 31, 2013**
- V. **Reports**
 - SILC Acting Chairperson
 - CLI Director
 - OVR Director
- VI. **Old Business**
 - 2014 SILC Congress
 - Update of SILC Membership Composition
- VII. **New Business**
 - Status of FY 2014 State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL)
 - FY 2014 SILC Resource Plan
 - Contract Award to CNMI Center for Living Independently
 - Review of FY 2013 SILC Member Attendance
 - SILC Parliamentarian
 - Ad-Hoc Committee to Review SILC By-Laws
 - Election of Officers
- VIII. **Consumer Forum**
- IX. **Announcements/Miscellaneous**
- X. **Adjournment**

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend the meeting but require reasonable accommodations are asked to call in and make their requests known two (2) days before the meeting. For more information, please contact Elvira Seman at 322-6537/8 (voice) or 322-6449 (TTY).

/s/ **Consolacion Atalig**
Acting Chairperson

Publication of this notice is paid for by federal funds made possible by the United States Department of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS).



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) hereby gives notice that a Special Meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Thursday, September 26, 2013, at 10:00 a.m. in the CPA Conference Room, Second Floor, Captain George F. Fleming Building at the Port of Saipan.

The following items are on the agenda for the above-referenced meeting:

AGENDA

- I. **PRELIMINARY MATTERS**
 1. Call to Order
 2. Roll Call
 3. Adoption of Agenda
 4. Adoption of Minutes (August 30 & September 18, 2013)
- II. **SPECIAL AGENDA ITEM(S)**
 1. Suspension of Rules/Election of Officers and Board Organization
 2. Fiscal Year 2014 Budget
- III. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
- IV. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**
- V. **ADJOURNMENT**

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items.

/s/ **JOSE R. LIFOIFOI**
Chairman, Board of Directors

September 24, 2013



Guam, CNMI governors pressed on WICHE

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Sen. Brant McCreadie meets with Guam Gov. Eddie Calvo and CNMI Gov. Eloy Inos to discuss Guam's participation in the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education Tuesday evening.

Guam Sen. Brant McCreadie met Tuesday evening with Guam Gov. Eddie Calvo and CNMI Gov. Eloy Inos to discuss Guam's participation in the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, or WICHE.

WICHE is a commission of 15 western states that provides numerous programs to reduce costs to undergraduate and graduate students that come from member states. Recently, WICHE has incorporated Guam, the CNMI, American Samoa, Palau, the Marshall Islands, and the Federated States of Micronesia as the collective 16th member of WICHE.

"It is crucial that Guam take advantage of all opportunities available to our students to provide access to higher education," said McCreadie. "I am very pleased that Governor Calvo and Governor Inos are

ready and willing to get Guam onboard with WICHE."

Currently, the CNMI is the only territory that has elected to actively participate in WICHE. Tuesday's meeting between McCreadie and the two governors laid the groundwork for Guam and the CNMI to establish a partnership to best serve the interests of college students from both territories.

"I want to thank Governor Calvo and Governor Inos for their commitment to a positive partnership in WICHE. This collaboration will allow greatly increased access to higher education for both our student populations," said McCreadie.

In related news, McCreadie introduced Resolution 234-32 yesterday, to support and urge the government of Guam to become an active member of WICHE to provide Guam's college students potential ac-

cess to reduced tuition rates at over 150 public institutions of higher learning across 15 western states.

"Becoming an active member of WICHE will provide our college-bound students additional opportunities to fulfill their desire to obtain a higher education abroad," said McCreadie. "Any programs or groups that the island of Guam can participate in that has the potential to provide more options for our students to access higher education must be encouraged."

Resolution 234-32 was introduced to obtain the mandatory legislative approval needed for Guam to become an active member of WICHE. The Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education is one of the largest organizations of its kind in the United States that through its various programs, initiatives and policy work aims to

increase student success and access to higher education. Guam hopes to join the CNMI as the second participating member in WICHE for the Pacific islands. (PR)

PIC turns over \$5K to ARC

Pacific Islands Club Saipan turned over last week the \$5,000 it raised during the 2013 PIC Palooza Party to the American Red Cross NMI Chapter.

PIC Saipan executive assistant Vicky Benavente, along with PIC Saipan SEA operations manager Dennis Tababa and executive Glenn Policare, were on hand to personally hand the check to John Hirsh, executive director of the local chapter of the ARC.

"On behalf of PIC Saipan general manager Hiro Sugie, we're happy to present this donation to the NMI American Red Cross. It's an honor to give the proceeds from the 2013 PIC Palooza Party to the American Red Cross, knowing what this organization has provided for the people of the islands, especially in times of disaster and emergencies," said Benavente.

Hirsh earlier said the money donated by the San Antonio hotel would come in handy for the non-profit organization's preparedness and response campaigns.

Over 200 people attended the "PIC Palooza—The Game Show" held on Sept. 7 at Charley's Cabaret.

The American Red Cross NMI Chapter has about 170 members on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. It also has member groups at Mt. Carmel School, Marianas High School, Kagman High School, and Saipan Southern High School.

Past beneficiaries of the PIC Palooza include the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance, Guma Esperanza Women's Shelter, PAWS, Beautify CNMI, and Karidat. (Mark Rabago)

Lions Club on Tinian to hold first medical mission

Tinian Marianas Lions Club will hold its first medical mission this Sunday, Sept. 29, at the Tinian Gymnasium in San Jose.

It will offer free eye examinations, blood pressure check, blood sugar check, and anti-flu shots courtesy of the Division of Public Health.

Guam Marianas Lions Club members, headed by president Art Navarro, will also offer free vision screening.

The American Cancer Society of Guam and the American Red Cross NMI Chapter will give away free information materials on cancer awareness, among others.

The medical mission is a project under District 204 Region 2.

Saipan Lions are expected to give away reading glasses at the event.

Tinian Marianas Lions is also joining the Region 2 Lions' campaign for recycling used eyeglasses. The organization will set up a receptacle to accept donations of used eyeglasses. Donated eyeglasses will be sent to the Lions EyeGlass Recycling Center for sorting, cleaning, and testing.

Sponsors of Sunday's mission are Bank of Guam, Tan Siu Lin Foundation, Joeten Enterprises, Department of

Community and Cultural Affairs-Tinian, Armatech, Brabu Pharmacy, JET Holding J's Restaurant, Sherman Consulting, Tinian Fuel Services Mobil, Traders Insurance, Marianas Energy Technology Inc., Telesource CNMI Inc., JC Café, Susan's Creation, St. Michael's Day Care, Division of Public Health, and the Tinian Mayor's Office.

For more information, call Liz Hofschneider at 287-9697, Susan Cruz at 287-0016, Rod Cabarles at 285-3637, Jackie Mendiola at 433-3261, or Paul Madriaga at 433-4501. (Saipan Tribune)

Air Force training on Farallon de Medinilla

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. Air Force will conduct training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla on Sept. 27, from 4:50am 9am and 2pm to 9pm. The general public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear from the area during the times and

dates indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants. Farallon de Medinilla plays a special and unique role in national defense because its location provides access fre-

quency that supports established training requirements. In addition, the air and sea space in the Farallon provides sufficient room for the many different attack profiles necessary to replicate training opportunities in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. (PR)

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

September 26, 2005

Lights out for alien workers?

Unless a law is signed in the next four days extending their employment, nonresident workers at Commonwealth Utilities Corp.-Saipan are sure to lose their jobs. CUC executive director Lorraine A. Babauta acknowledged this in her Sept. 2, 2005 memorandum to affected employees. "If the law is not amended, CUC will not be able legally to continue your employment beyond Sept. 30, 2005. Please inform Human Resources whether you will be seeking employment elsewhere in the Commonwealth or whether you will be repatriating to your country of origin," said Babauta in her "notice of intent to renew" to individual nonresident workers. This developed as the Senate passed a bill last week, which in its original version, only extends the hiring of alien workers in other agencies, including CUC Rota and Tinian, but not CUC Saipan.

Fired employees dispute 'poor performance' claims

Terminated Rota municipal office employees disputed the claim of Rota Mayor Benjamin Manglona that they were laid off partly due to their "poor performance." "Poor performance? What does he say about my employee of the year award in 2004?" asked project development officer Larry John "Bradlee" T. Atalig in an interview Saturday. Atalig is one the seven municipal employees who were given non-renewal notice earlier this month. Likewise, project development officer Daniel Rangamar Jr., whose termination takes effect on Sept. 30 this year, said he received work-related awards in the last two years.

September 26, 2006

More leaving retirement program

Every month, an average of 100 members of the government's retirement plan are leaving the program since the enactment of laws restructuring the system last June. Newly named Fund administrator Mark Aguon said yesterday that the agency refunded an average of 50 people per pay period in July and August. "It's about 100 people a month on average. I'm looking at the last two months," said Aguon in an interview yesterday.

'Borja's selection as PSS commissioner being scrutinized'

The Board of Education's selection of David M. Borja as the new commissioner of the Public School System is being questioned, according to board member Herman T. Guerrero. Guerrero said the board recently received an Open Government Act request from a private law firm in the CNMI, asking for copies of all documents pertaining to the selection of Borja as the new Commissioner of Education. Guerrero said the request "in a way" questions the BOE's commissionership selection process. As far as he is aware, the board has not acted on the request yet. He expressed belief, though, that the PSS legal counsel "is getting all the documents together."

September 26, 2007

PSS and DCCA square off

The simmering tension between the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs and the Public School System over who should be handling the child care program in the CNMI boiled over yesterday, with DCCA officials accusing PSS of willfully withholding information related to the federally-funded program. In a hearing at the Senate chamber, DCCA officials led by deputy secretary Melvin Faisao repeatedly accused PSS of failing to provide them information on the child care program, which they said they have been asking for a long time now. DCCA explained to lawmakers that it has been requesting PSS for a list of information on the parents and children who are enrolled in the program.

Kumho submits 40-year lease request

Kumho Asiana submitted to the Legislature its request for a 40-year lease of the Lao Lao Bay Golf Resort yesterday. The Korean-owned company plans to build a \$100-million resort on the site. The project will include 12-story buildings with 128 rooms, as well as seven villas. Lao Lao president Sun Don Jung and Asiana Saipan general manager Kwang Joong Kim presented the proposed lease agreement to Senate President Joseph M. Mendiola and House Speaker Oscar M. Babauta at the Governor's Conference Room. Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, Attorney General Matthew T. Gregory, and Public Lands Secretary John S. Del Rosario Jr. were present.

Legislature pursues e-gaming despite passage of video lottery bill

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Despite the passage of a video lottery bill now with the governor, the House and Senate are still pursuing an electronic gaming legislation whose conferees could meet as early as yesterday.

Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) appointed on Monday night three Senate conferees on the electronic gaming measure: Senate vice president Victor Hocog (R-Rota), floor leader Ray Yumul (Ind-Saipan), and Sen. Frank Borja (Ind-Tinian).

Their counterparts in the House are Ways and Means Committee chair Tony Sablan (Ind-Saipan), Rep. John Paul Sablan (Cov-Saipan), and Mario Taitano (Ind-Saipan), chair of the Special Committee on Retirement Fund.

Sablan and Hocog separately said Tuesday they could start meeting yesterday, Wednesday.

The conferees will hash out the differences between the House and Senate versions of the electronic gaming bill that Sablan authored, and recommend passage of a “compromise” bill.

Electronic gaming machines will be installed only at Saipan hotels with at least 100 rooms or those attached to a golf course.

Hocog, in an interview, said the electronic gaming bill will surely pass the Legislature, whereas the

Saipan casino legalization bill remains “up in the air.”

“Let’s see how the two revenue-generating bills—electronic gaming and video lottery—will perform, and we may not need the Saipan casino bill anymore,” Hocog said.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos has been asking the Legislature to send him bills that will generate new sources of revenues to help the NMI Retirement Fund and other public service programs.

On Monday, the Senate passed the House video lottery bill, sending it to the governor for action. Once the bill is enacted into law, it will allow video lottery terminals at certain hotels and airport departure areas.

Some lawmakers have raised questions whether the video lottery and electronic gaming bills conflict with each other instead of complementing each other.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said both electronic gaming and video lottery allow the same type of game but the difference is in the legal structure.

He said electronic gaming is run by the private sector with a licensing fee paid to the government, while video lottery is run by the government with significant controls on all aspects of gaming activity so as to accomplish specific government objectives such as economic development, integrity in gaming and tourism development.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

NEW PSS RATES

Acting governor Jude U. Hofschneider, seated center, signs into Public Law 18-19 a Senate bill reducing the Public School System’s water and wastewater services rates from government to commercial Tuesday morning on Capital Hill. Witnessing the signing are Education Commissioner Dr. Rita Sablan, Board of Education chair Herman Guerrero and some senators led by Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan), author of the bill.

FEMA conducts Disaster Preparedness 101 at Rotary

By **MARK RABAGO**
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

One of the most important things anyone can do to prepare for a disaster like a typhoon or a flood is personal preparedness, according to a visiting Federal Emergency Management Agency official.

“Because if you’re not prepared then it’s somebody else’s job to help you out. We want to make sure you’re taking the steps that you can do to be prepared,” said FEMA voluntary agency liaison Michael Kern, who served as the Rotary Club of Saipan’s guest speaker yesterday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

As a voluntary agency liaison, or VAL, Kern acts as a bridge between the community and FEMA and includes supporting non-profit, community based and faith-based organizations. Kern has responsibility over Hawaii, American Samoa, and the CNMI.

He said personal preparedness could be achieved through four steps: build a kit, make a plan, be informed, and get involved.

According to the website www.ready.gov, a disaster supplies kit is simply a collection of basic items a household may need in the event of an emergency.

Since the CNMI is in the middle of the Pacific, Kern said that supplies would take days to come here so instead of the recommended 72 hours of food and water, he recommends storing a week’s worth of them.

A supplies kit, he said, should

contain items to help manage during the days after the disaster when electricity and other critical services are down.

Families should have a predetermined safe place to go to during a disaster, he said, and should have a way to contact one another and a plan on how to get back together when they’re separated.

“Make a plan and have a communications plan with your family. Make sure your children know where the meet-up place

going to be.”

Be informed, meanwhile, means familiarizing yourself with the signs of events that come without warning and know the local advance alerts and warnings and how you will receive them.

“Be informed through social media, websites, and a lot of ways to get informed and most importantly get involved in your community.”

According to www.ready.gov, knowing about the local

emergency plans for shelter and evacuation and local emergency contacts will help develop a

household plan and will also come in handy during a crisis.

Get involved entails volunteering to support disaster efforts in the community, becoming a part of the community

planning process, or joining or starting a preparedness project.

One can also donate cash or goods, which may help meet the needs of the community in times of disaster.

Century Insurance Company Ltd. is inviting individuals to apply for the following position:

Legal Secretary

Duties & Responsibilities:

Works primarily with attorneys in setting up case files, keep case files current, and file pleadings with both Superior Court and U.S. District Court of the N.M.I. Accurately calendars court hearings and trials, monitor deadlines and track cases through the justice system; draft and proof read correspondences, photocopy, fax, print, use telephone techniques, e-mail use, and file.

Job Requirements:

Knowledge: Of law office practice (preferably litigation), familiarity with Superior Court and District Court procedures and legal terminology.

Equipment Skills: Use various office equipment including telephone, fax machine, copier, printer, computer, and occasionally a manual typewriter.

Software Skills: Proficient with word processing (preferably Microsoft Office Word) and Microsoft Outlook. Knowledge of Excel is beneficial.

Ability: To type at least 40 wpm (no errors); multi-task; be well organized; maintain a professional disposition; focus and concentrate in a stressful environment with heavy workloads and strict timelines; work independently and self-directed; maintain strict confidentiality; communicate effectively orally and in writing; follow verbal and written instructions; possess good interpersonal skills and establish effective working relationships with law enforcement, fellow employees, supervisors and the public; use proper sentence structure, punctuation, grammar and spelling; proof reading; accuracy; and attention to detail.

Required Qualifications:

To be considered for the position, applicants must have a high school diploma (or GED) and four (4) years secretarial or clerical experience with demonstrated competency in records management, word processing, and other routing office tasks requiring application of working level computer skills. Applicants with an equivalent combination of education and experience may be considered.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at Century Insurance Company Ltd. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Tuesday, October 08, 2013.

Century Insurance Company Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

WORLD RESORT

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

OPEN DATE: September 19, 2013 CLOSE DATE: September 26, 2013 Qualifications: High school graduate or equivalent. Minimum two (2) years experience in culinary experience. Applicants with formal training/education in culinary arts strongly preferred. Position may require employee to receive food handler related health examinations and clearances as condition to their continued employment.	POSITION: Cook (Mandarin, Korean, Japanese) SALARY: Negotiable
OPEN DATE: September 19, 2013 CLOSE DATE: September 26, 2013 Qualifications: High school graduate or equivalent. Minimum three (3) years experience in massage therapy. A graduate of vocational course in massage therapy or reflexology strongly preferred.	POSITION: Masseur/Therapist SALARY: Negotiable
OPEN DATE: September 19, 2013 CLOSE DATE: September 26, 2013 Qualifications: High school graduate or equivalent; Water Park or Amusement Park management/supervision experience highly preferred. Minimum two (2) years experience in hotel outlet operations required.	POSITION: Activity Supervisor (Water Park) SALARY: Negotiable
OPEN DATE: September 19, 2013 CLOSE DATE: September 26, 2013 Qualifications: High school graduate or equivalent required. Minimum two (2) years experience in a cashier type occupation preferred. Must have strong accounting and money handling skills. Must show strong integrity and morality.	POSITION: Cashier (Water Park) SALARY: Minimum Wage
OPEN DATE: September 19, 2013 CLOSE DATE: September 26, 2013 Qualifications: High school graduate or equivalent required. Obtaining a lifeguard certification may be a required for continued employment. Must have friendly and outgoing personality.	POSITION: Lifeguard (Full Time & Part-time) SALARY: Minimum Wage
OPEN DATE: September 19, 2013 CLOSE DATE: September 26, 2013 Qualifications: High school graduate or equivalent required. Minimum two (2) years in housekeeping or commercial cleaning preferred. Must have a friendly personality and willingness to provide service to customers.	POSITION: Housekeeping Attendant SALARY: Minimum Wage
OPEN DATE: September 19, 2013 CLOSE DATE: September 26, 2013 Qualifications: High school graduate or equivalent required. Experience as a hotel bellhop preferred. Must have excellent people skills, willingness to provide service, friendly attitude and a ready smile.	POSITION: Bellhop Attendant SALARY: Minimum Wage

For more information, please contact the Human Resources Team at (670) 234-5900 ext. 274/266/576.

Employment application forms are available at the Saipan World Resort, Security Office, located next to the Wave Jungle/Water Park. Applicants must submit the completed form and all the necessary requirements to the Security Office. Incomplete application will not be accepted by the Security Office.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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Why was Bo Xilai smiling?

By CHENG LI AND RYAN MCELVEEN
LOS ANGELES TIMES

The sentencing of disgraced Chinese leader Bo Xilai to life in prison struck a blow against one of the greatest existential threats to Communist Party rule since Tiananmen Square. In addition to handing President Xi Jinping a victory in his campaign against official corruption, the verdict also discredited the radical Maoist transformation of China that Bo Xilai sought to mobilize. But now that Xi has gained a tentative credibility in the eyes of the Chinese people, he must embark on further reforms to ensure that his victory is enduring.

Xi has made anti-corruption reforms a centerpiece of his presidency, and the prosecution of Bo gave credence to his efforts. Throughout the scandal and trial, Bo denied everything, admitted nothing and blamed any missteps on his imprisoned wife and his former confidants. He was nevertheless declared guilty of bribery, embezzlement and abuse of power.

But as he stood in court to hear the predictably punitive verdict, he grinned like a Cheshire cat. It was the knowing smile of someone who has endured a life of struggle and sat on both sides of China's capricious and politically calibrated scales of justice. That smile could haunt Xi and the Chinese leadership for years to come if they don't continue on the path of reform.

Xi has spent his political honeymoon trying to gain traction for his domestic policy agenda. His court victory in the Bo case was a setback for China's "new left" (the current generation of Maoists, including many of Bo's followers). But liberal intellectuals are likely to remain cynical. Although many in China are greatly incensed by the widespread corruption among officials, they also want Xi to take the lead in implementing economic and constitutional reforms.

So what should come next? Having now dispensed with the biggest case under his watch, a revitalized Xi is expected to extend his anti-corruption campaign to other heavy hitters, possibly including former Politburo Standing Committee member Zhou Yongkang and former Vice Chairman of the Central Military Commission Xu Caihong.

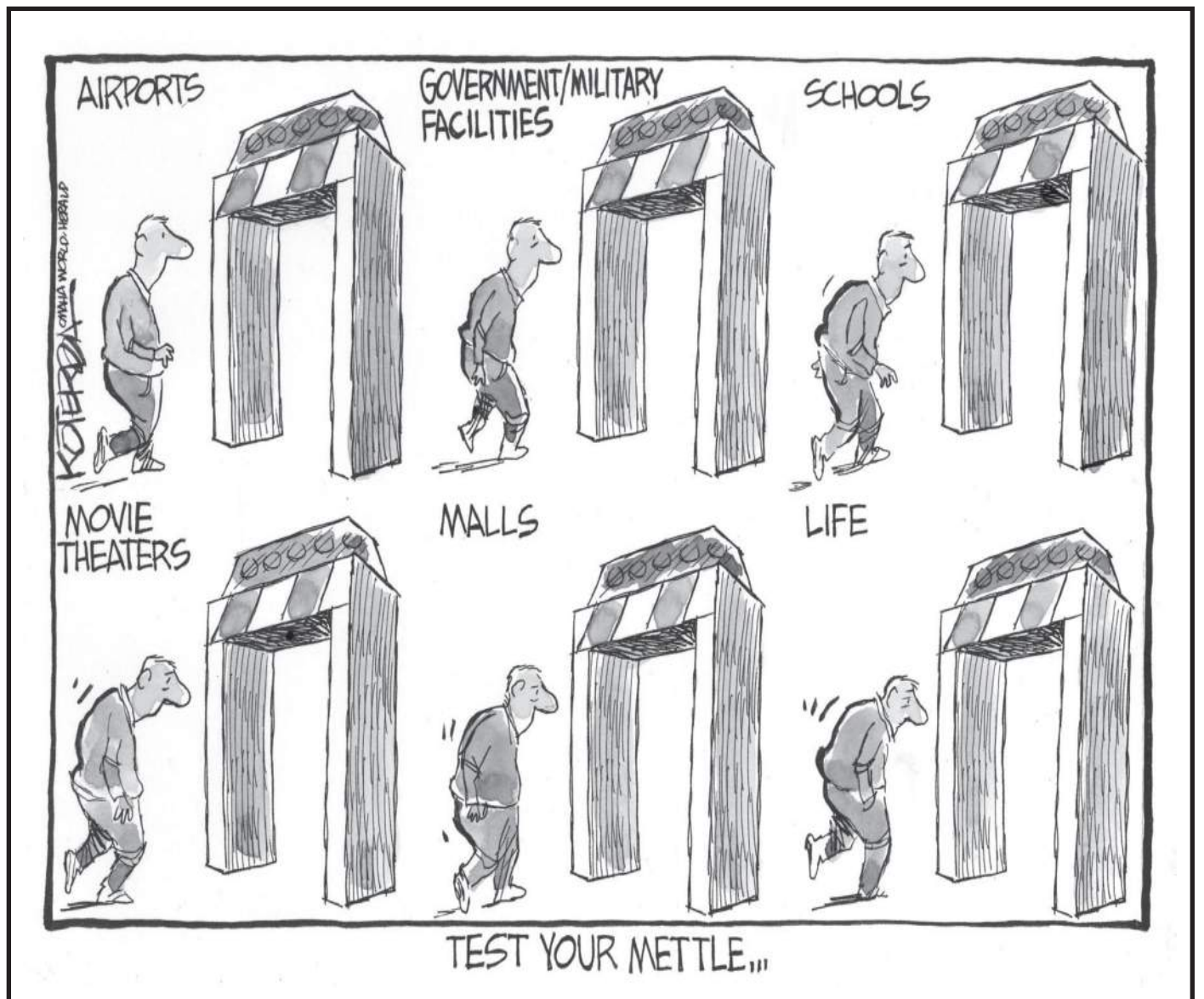
Zhou and Xu had pervasive control over personnel appointments in two very powerful sectors of Chinese government: domestic security and the military. Zhou was Bo's political patron and would be the highest-ranking official to be investigated as part of Xi's campaign. Zhou is said to have overseen questionable legal investigations in addition to widespread corruption.

These would be important prosecutions, but Xi also needs to move on to other kinds of reform. Many aspects of his presidency to date have troubled Chinese intellectuals and the general public. Earlier this year, for example, he issued a circular to academics instructing them not to speak about seven sensitive issues, and he recently distributed "Document 9" to party members describing the threat of Western democratic ideals and human rights advocacy to Chinese communist ideology. The government also sparked concern by threatening three-year prison terms for posting "slandorous" content on social media platforms that attracts more than 5,000 views or is reposted more than 500 times.

These trends do not bode well for legal and constitutional reform in China, and they stand in contrast to the hopes stirred by the legal proceedings against Bo.

Xi could build on his newfound political capital by both persisting in his anti-corruption probes of elites and embarking on bold economic reform at the party's Third Plenum in November. These things would strengthen his support among the growing middle class and could help set the stage for deeper legal and political reform in the coming years.

See XILAI on Next Page



The games Assad plays

The Syrian government's continued denial that it gassed its people—in the face of stark evidence to the contrary—reminds me of a chilling experience I had in Damascus in 1982.

Rumors were flying that the regime of Hafez al-Assad had massacred at least 10,000 people in the city of Hama, but the government wouldn't let anyone near the site. As I waited in the office of Information Minister Ahmed Iskandar Ahmed, I was stunned to see a large painting on the wall portraying Hama's historic city center, with its famous water wheel in the foreground; this was the exact area that had been obliterated by government shells.

When the minister emerged, I inquired about the painting. "That is our beautiful city of Hama," he replied with a straight face. "Many tourists visit it. You should, too, some day."

Shelling? What shelling? He knew that I knew that he was lying, but he stuck to his story.

When it comes to killing his own people, nothing has changed under the regime of Assad's son, Bashar. Like Iskandar, Assad (and his Russian backers) will peddle self-serving lies with a straight face. The forensic data in this week's report by United Nations inspectors indicates that elite regime units gassed their own people. The large size and payload of the sarin-filled rockets are far beyond what the rebels are known to possess or able to handle.

(Some rebels might conceivably have obtained, or even used, small amounts of chemical weapons—although there is no evidence that this has happened—but would have nothing of this size.)

Most damning, the angle from which the rockets were fired (which the U.N. experts were able to determine) indicates the missiles came from key government bases, in tightly controlled areas that rebels could not have penetrated. U.S. satellite images reportedly confirm the data in the U.N. report.

Yet Assad and his Russian backers still insist the Aug. 21 attack was the work of rebels. Russia is already trying to undermine the U.N. findings. These blanket denials signal clearly that Assad won't destroy all his chemical weapons—as called for by a U.S.-Russian framework accord announced last week. Nor will the Russians endorse a tough U.N. Security Council resolution that promises punishment if he fails. In fact, the Russians must insist on Assad's innocence in order to defend their refusal to brand him a war criminal.

A French draft resolution called for the Security Council to refer Assad to the International Criminal Court for war crimes, which could weaken his hold on power. Any resolution containing a request for such a referral faces a certain Russian veto, so it will probably be dropped.

By TRUDY RUBIN
The Philadelphia Inquirer

Trudy Rubin is a columnist and editorial-board member for the Philadelphia Inquirer. Readers may write to her at: Philadelphia Inquirer, P.O. Box 8263, Philadelphia, Pa. 19101, or by email at trubin@phillynews.com.



The Russians continue to insist the sarin attack on Aug. 21 was "fabricated" by rebels. Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov has cited "lots of evidence delivered by independent experts online," but the evidence is vague at best, and even bizarre. One such "expert" is a Lebanese Carmelite nun who is pro-Assad and frequently quoted in Russian media: She was not near the attack, but insists online that rebels kidnapped children and gassed them at East Ghouta.

Other Russian "evidence" can be traced back to fringe websites such as the conspiracy-minded Globalresearch.org, which runs unsourced pieces under banner headlines such as: "Did the White House help plan the Syrian chemical attack?"

And some "evidence" is based on outright distortion and doctored videos. Respected British security analyst and blogger Eliot Higgins (known as Brown Moses) posted three videos purporting to show that the rebels were guilty, and then detailed why he suspected the videos had been doctored. He was shocked to learn that Russia Today, a government-backed news channel, used his post to claim that he backed the thesis that rebels had launched the Aug. 21 attack.

I still believe the Russians (acting in their own self-interest) did President Obama a favor by saving him from an embarrassing congressional rejection of an ill-conceived military strike. A flawed process of chemical disarmament is preferable to a flawed strike, but it must be recognized for what it is—a delaying tactic designed by Moscow to keep Assad in power. Russia's narrative of Assad's innocence is meant to ensure that neither Western arms nor diplomacy unseats him.

Anyone who hopes that the disarmament deal might lead to serious Syrian peace negotiations—which would produce a transitional government without Assad—is indulging in self-delusion; neither Damascus nor Moscow is willing.

What, me a war criminal? Nonsense, says Assad. He will keep saying it with a straight face as he hides some containers of sarin as backup insurance, while giving up just enough so that the U.N. inspections keep going on, and on, and on.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Abisu pot lai konstitusion

Gi halom rimulinun asuntun linahyan siha, buente ti mahasñgon maletken Attikulu III, Seksiona 20 gi papa' i konstitusion ni prumutetehe pagamientun man-ritirau. Yangin magahet na ti mahasñgon, pues maila' ya ensegidas tana' dinanche che'cho'ta gi matatiyen lai. Estague' i propiu manera 'nai siña ta abiba gobietnun lai 'sino "government of laws".

Solu gobietnun diktatot 'nai masusesede inaminasan lai gi kaprechon niha. Lau sisteman demokrasi gobietnota. Poressu, tod u fanate matatiyen lai konstitusion pot asuntun pagamientun man-ritirau.

Ta'lu, yangin ti mahasñgon pues propiu i para ta tatitye mandantun lai konstitusion. Estague' muna' memetgot mas areglon halom gobietnamenton demokrasi.

Maseha dididi' atrasau, mauleg ta aregla pa'gu ke u guaha keha gi kotte pot inaminasan lai konstitusion. Ti bonito este na klasen keha lau 'nai presisu, pues kase ennau ha' para uttimoña sa' guahu unu ti konfotmeyu' ni masusesede pa'gu gi hiyuñg i lai.

Un' dañkulu na agradesimientu para si Rep. Janet Maratita ni muna' fan man-hassu todus na guaha lai pot man-ritirau ni debi umatatiye. Maseha guaha siha botlu pot ha apunta este huyunñg, dinanche i abisu sa' lai konstitusion i debi fuetsau umatatiye.

Dispues, ti finatinasña i Attikulu III, Seksiona 20 ni gumarentia 100 pot sientu na apas para man-ritirau. Lai konstitusion!

Benefisiun Man-ritirau

I lehislaturan Guahan sige madibate subridan benefisiu (Cost of Living Allowance) para man-ritirau gobietnu. Taigue gi planun niha subrida para i man-ritirau gi praihet.

Ma-ina ya masoda' na i mediu pagamienton man-ritirau gobietnun Guaha ennau i \$28 mit pesu, i praihet ennau i \$25 mit pesus gi sakan, sigidu.

Making soup without water

The letter to the editor titled, "Doers, the workforce, and wages" is an ontological waste of thoughts drifting in a sea of knowledge and wishing it would stick to common sense, at least if it reaches that level of discourse. The expression, "you are the slave of your own ignorance" plays a major part for a person that presupposes hearers of his discourse as inferior beings or people of a low class of intelligence.

Minimum wage as a measure of value in production of goods or services did not just pop up some 200 years ago in the U.S., and it is not ridiculous at all. History would tell that the value of labor as part of the means of production is traced all the way back to ancient Egypt. The value of labor was free at that time, but the pharaohs built structures like the pyramids that still stand today, and some monumental structures may still lay buried underground in places scattered all over Egypt, just waiting to be discovered. The economic foundation of the free world or democracies changed from feudal to "industrial." In England and other European nations, we saw the rise of the bourgeois revolution that ended feudalism. All these were human developments that made humanity progress to what modern-times capitalism is that we know of today. And this is not funny at all because the struggle of humanity has evolved,

To be expected is right

"As expected the lawmakers' reaction to the class counsel's fees is predictable: outrage at the idea of having to pay for services," said Zaldy. But all this anger is focused on the attorneys instead of the person who should be held accountable. I taught in adult education that you never sign a contract until you know all the good and bad things, especially all the cost. Why didn't someone ask what the attorney's fees would be before the agreement was even signed? A million-dollar question!

The governor and the Legislature have attorneys, which is why I am so amazed that they missed something as important as the actual cost the government would have to pay. I'm sure the mad rush to put the Fund issue to rest and gear up for re-election was at the forefront of the thinking that led to this "impeachable oversight." But I expected what happened as I predicted again that the only people who will be happy in the end will be the attorneys and it looks like I will maintain my 1,000 batting average.

Zaldy was right when he said lawmakers also take exception to legitimate comments about Article 12. They cling to outdated opinions and condemn all other views. All of our leaders pledged obedience to the U.S. Constitution but yet they willing to stand by and even contribute to the perpetuation of conflict between CNMI law and

Tres mit pesus uma'adiñgu lau guaha kinalamten para subridan man-ritirau gobietnu. Gi halom distansian fuetsan pottanmonedan familia, ileghu na ti propiu hatsadan COLA para i man-ritirau gobietnu sa' gi katkuet manera, parehu sufa' gi hilu' parehu na pisun chinatsaga.

Solute mana' saunau ayudon benefisiu para man-ritirau praihet, kase todas yangin ni unu ma-ayuda. Na ti parehu dos grupon empleau man-apase aduanu (tax) kumu regulat na empleau antes?

Huñgan, sige ha' hulu' presiun nesessidat familia 'nai gi mismu tiempu i sueddun memegaiña gaddun gi halom fache' appenas fondu. Poressu na debi lehislatura u sehan ñaihon ya u estudiaye tat kuestion kumu: Justisia para umana' fan apase empleau praihet pot subridan COLA para i man-ritirau gobietnu?

Finattun Hai'las

Hame guine gi sankattan esta ha' kara' i programan man-ritirau. 'Los uttimu siempre bai'n fan abende dadeq niyog yan pau hebau na matiteg talapos para fahan mantension familia.

Ai lastima 'nai un' tiempu abundansia salape' guine. Maseha manu un' atan a'asu i tanu' ni tininun katne yan guihan. Pa'gu, ha tutunu ham i man-kara' mame na achog haye malofan in' faisen chupa 'sino lamog pugua' mahetog.

Kontodu kestat eskusu yan tampen sinetnan man-hanau manbakasion. Ni unu malago' bumirague' tatte Marianas sa' ti malañgag i guafen butkan ni sige ha halom. Kontodu man-ma'gas mame man-hanau man-deskansa gi fina' lanchu pot no u fan ekuñgog puti na iniguñg publiku ni man-mamadadese. De dios mihu!

Hineddan man-magasta

Inapagat ginen mañainata na debi ta respeta lugat siha ni trabiha ti manOkilisyanu 'sino man-diskalantau. Yangin taya' respetumu,

developing its economic system before the Middle Ages and even much earlier than the time of Jesus Christ. What is funny, however, is what Mr. Ambrose Bennett misses by tinkering with scholarly matters and contributing more to confuse those he considers having less intelligence than he has.

Mr. Bennett talks about "equality" and freedom. Again, these matters have intrigued humanity since the time man invented language to express his rational knowledge and desire for the truth. I would be more inclined to defer to John Locke's treatment of natural rights than to labor comprehending what Mr. Bennett thinks about equality, as presented in his monolithic discourse here in the CNMI. If confusion persists, it is because we try to figure out whether he is referring to "equality of opportunity" or "equality of outcome" in his discourse about free-market economy. Milton Friedman or John Maynard Keynes would be better scholars to seek knowledge from and get direction on what we can learn about economic, social, or political equality. Men like these are theorists that provide the foundation of knowledge in man's quest to making and enjoying a better world and producing goods and services for mankind. The empiricist Thomas Aquinas said, "Truth does not have its own contradictions." I just could not understand what Mr. Bennett's un-

derstanding about the means of production in a capitalistic economy or the CNMI economy for what it is today.

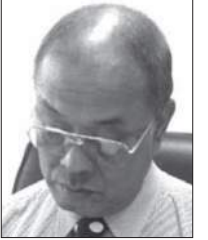
To talk about labor and excluding the rest of the elements involved in a market economy, is like telling a mother that she could make soup without water. It just doesn't happen that way, Mr. Bennett. But we can shoo thoughts like these to the side, the way we rid flies from the kitchen table to prevent them from pestering our food. In an economic system, the means of production include labor, capital, and land (natural resources). If your sole concern is about labor or wage, you miss the rest of the elements that make up an economy. Believe me, these elements are not mutually exclusive; they are parts of the whole no less. See the *The New Palgrave Dictionary of Economics* for the definition of "economics" to set your thoughts straight and realize what is missing in the equation. To say less than its entirety about a market economy is like issuing your best soldiers all the most advanced weapons available without bullets to fight a battle. Guess what, only those equipped with real bullets would measure up as real soldiers.

Francisco R. Agulto
Kannat Tabla, Saipan

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



pues kase siña ha' mana' abag hau. 'An mas un' atisa tai respetumu, mana' malañgu hau. I uttimu i mana' hineddan hau. Kumeke ilegña ti amtiyun i matdision chetnot ginen i man-mofo'na.

Gi ti mapot na manera, fan man-osge gi finu' mañainan miyu. Matuñgo'ña haf' fina'pos tautau ke hamyu ni manhoben. Dipotsihe i saina guiya i pilan gi lañget ni umi'ina i hemhom na lugat pot para in' lie' manu in' hananague.

Huñgan, guaha siha lugat kontodu kanton tasi ni sessu ta fatoigue 'nai siempre guaha ha' na biahe 'nai un' fañiente. Fangagau dispensu dispues diñgu i lugat sa' oran niha. Muñga man-estotba.

Guaha siha finaposhu pot espiritu ni kumonfitma magahet fuetsan animas. Ni haf' un' chogue mifuetsaña ke hagu piot sa' espiritu ni ti siña un' gu'ot. Diberas, metgot na fuetsa ya pot hu lie' petsonatmiente mina' ilelegu fan man-respeta.

Tai malefaghu lokue' ayu na finu' mañainata, "Guaha ha' ti para hita". Ti komprendiyon i maliñgon dos medianu na ayuyu ni hu pega gi fihonhu. Esta hu plancha uma-unu yan i primuhu. 'Nai para bai'n adiñgu hu sañgane na ti para hame ayu na kineni' mame.

Man-gagaige ha' ayu mina' na motmut respetumu tatnai sisida un' mana' abag, malañgu 'sino hineddan. Lokue', respetu un' metgot na patte gi kuttura-ta. Ta abiba kumu tautau isla hit todus.

does not go up, no one gets a raise—one of the main reasons locals are leaving. Hopefully our governor and delegate will still push the business community to raise the minimum wage long before the deadline, for workers' sake and their own political careers.

Ambrose M. Bennett
Kagman, Saipan

Francisco R. Agulto

Kannat Tabla, Saipan

Ambrose M. Bennett

Kagman, Saipan

XILAI

From Page 10






If the Chinese leadership detours from this path, though, Bo's catlike smile of skepticism at his sentencing will be remembered vividly, serving as a reminder of an opportunity missed to permanently recalibrate China's scales of justice.

Cheng Li is a senior fellow in the John L. Thornton China Center at the Brookings Institution. Ryan McElveen is a researcher on Chinese politics and foreign policy. They wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
				
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Southwest winds 5 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. Southwest winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.
▲ 86° ▼ 76°	▲ 85° ▼ 76°	▲ 85° ▼ 76°	▲ 85° ▼ 76°	▲ 86° ▼ 76°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	▲ 86 ▼ 77
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲ 86 ▼ 77
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲ 88 ▼ 78
Chuuk	Showers	▲ 87 ▼ 78
Pohnpei	Showers	▲ 88 ▼ 75
Kosrae	Showers	▲ 88 ▼ 75
Majuro	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 79

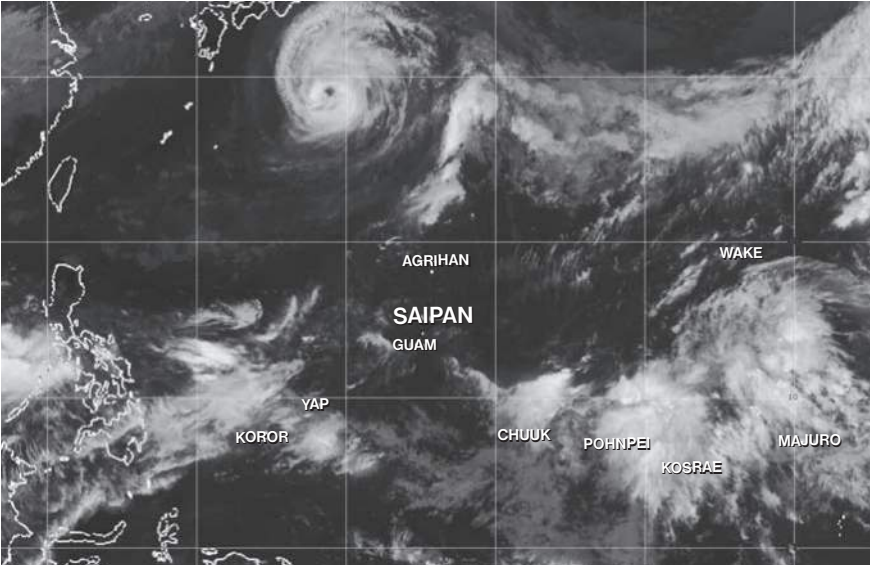
Around The Globe

Auckland	Windy	▲ 62 ▼ 57
Beijing	Sunny	▲ 78 ▼ 52
Hong Kong	Mostly Sunny	▲ 87 ▼ 77
Honolulu	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 88 ▼ 75
London	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 63 ▼ 55
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲ 74 ▼ 58
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 84 ▼ 77
Melbourne	Rain	▲ 62 ▼ 42
Miami	Thundershowers	▲ 88 ▼ 76
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲ 73 ▼ 54
Osaka	Windy	▲ 75 ▼ 61
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 74 ▼ 56
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲ 74 ▼ 61
Rome	Sunny	▲ 78 ▼ 58
Salem	Showers	▲ 63 ▼ 45
San Francisco	Sunny	▲ 63 ▼ 53
Seoul	Sunny	▲ 72 ▼ 51
Tokyo	Windy	▲ 75 ▼ 58
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲ 77 ▼ 59

Tides

Saipan Harbor			
7:20 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
2:28 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet
7:54 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.2 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2013
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Convergent southwest winds are producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms west of Koror between 6N and 13N from 130E to 135E and between Koror and Yap within 100 miles of a line from 9N136E to 6N142E. Similar weather is found north of the Marianas within 50 miles of a line running from 21N146E to 25N147E. A surface trough extends from just north of Chuuk through a weak circulation centered at 11N156E northward to another weak circulation north of Wake Island centered at 23N167E to 25N172E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found northeast of Chuuk between 8N and 11N from 151E to 155E and northeast of Wake Island between 20N and 25N from 173E to 175E. A surface trough stretches northeastward from 7N160E to 16N169E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms can be found northeast of Pohnpei and around Kosrae, Kwajelein and Majuro within 300 miles of the trough axis.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:06 AM	6:10 PM
Friday	6:06 AM	6:10 PM
Saturday	6:06 AM	6:09 PM
Sunday	6:07 AM	6:08 PM
Monday	6:07 AM	6:07 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	11:21 PM	11:41 AM
Friday		12:29 PM
Saturday	12:09 AM	1:14 PM
Sunday	12:58 AM	1:58 PM
Monday	1:47 AM	2:40 PM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

- PICTURES**
 - ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
 - BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
 - BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
 - SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
 - TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

- For pictures:**
- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
 - Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
 - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
 - Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
 - For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.
- For announcements:**
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 24, 2013

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM) UA5070 4:35am 5:25am 2, 4, 6, 7 UA5062 4:50am 5:40am 1, 3, 5 UA5068 8:35am 9:25am Daily UA5074 11:20am 12:10pm 1, 4, 5, 7 UA5076 3:10pm 4:00pm Daily UA5078 6:55pm 7:45pm Daily UA5072 9:45pm 10:35pm Daily	GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN UA 5069 2:45am 3:35am 2, 4, 6, 7 UA5071 7:15am 8:05am Daily UA5073 10:00am 10:50am 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 UA5075 1:45pm 2:35pm 1, 4, 5, 7 UA5077 5:35pm 6:25pm Daily UA5079 8:20pm 9:10pm Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT) DL287 6:05am 8:40am Daily DL297 4:35pm 7:20pm Daily	GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP) UA5062 2:40am 3:15am 1, 3, 5 UA5038 10:10am 10:45am 6
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS) OZ608 3:10am 6:20am 1, 4, 5, 7	ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN UA5062 3:45am 4:20am 1, 3, 5 UA5038 11:15am 11:50am 6
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN) OZ606 2:20am 6:00am 1 OZ606 2:50am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 OZ604 3:30pm 6:55pm Daily	NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN DL298 10:25am 3:05pm Daily DL288 8:55pm 1:30am+1 Daily
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG) 3U8648 6:10am 8:40am 1, 4, 5, 7	BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN OZ607 9:05pm 1:55am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK) MU764 4:10am 8:00am 1, 5	SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN OZ603 8:50am 2:20pm Daily OZ605 7:40pm 1:10am+1 7 OZ605 8:15pm 1:45am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN) 3U8646 4:20am 7:30am 2, 6	SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN 3U8647 10:40pm 5:00am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-KHABAROVSK (KHV) SYL9950 6:40pm 1:30am+1 7	BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN MU763 7:55pm 3:10am+1 4, 7
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL) OZ606/701 2:20am 11:05am 1 via ICN OZ606/701 2:50am 11:05am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN UA5070/191 4:35am 9:55am 6 via GUM UA5062/191 4:50am 9:55am 3 via GUM DL287/173 6:05am 10:05pm Daily via NRT UA5068/PR111 8:35am 4:45pm 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM UA5074/PR111 11:20am 4:45pm 1, 5, 7 via GUM UA5076/183 3:10pm 8:45pm 2, 5 via GUM UA5076/183 3:10pm 9:10pm 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM OZ604/703 3:30pm 10:45pm Daily via ICN	GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN 3U8645 7:40pm 3:00am+1 1, 5
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG) OZ606/721 2:20am 11:50am 1 via ICN OZ606/721 2:50am 11:50am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN UA5076/147 3:10pm 9:50pm 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM OZ604/745 3:30pm 10:40pm Daily via ICN	KHABAROVSK (KHV)-SAIPAN SYL9949 12:45pm 5:20pm 7
	MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN PR110/UA5072 7:35am 6:25pm 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM DL172/288 7:55am 1:30am+1 Daily via NRT UA190/5079 10:55am 9:10pm 3, 6 via GUM OZ702/605 12:15pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN OZ702/605 12:15pm 1:45am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN UA184/5071 10:25pm 8:05am+1 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM UA184/5071 11:35pm 8:05am+1 2, 5 via GUM OZ704/603 11:45pm 2:20pm+1 Daily via ICN
	HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN OZ746/603 12:30am 2:20pm Daily via ICN OZ722/605 1:10pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN OZ722/605 1:10pm 1:45am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN UA180/5071 10:45pm 8:05am+1 1, 5 via GUM UA180/5071 10:50pm 8:05am+1 3, 6 GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan							
FRE 100	17:50	18:20	Daily	Tinian-Saipan			
Saipan-Rota				FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Island Snapshots



CLUB 200 SUPPORTERS

Brabu Pharmacy staff and American Red Cross representatives have their picture taken Tuesday, Sept. 24, at Brabu's store location in Gualo Rai. Brabu donated \$1,000 to support this year's Red Cross Club 200, scheduled for Oct. 19, at the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan.

ARC



Delta Airline's Chris Concepcion, center, poses with American Red Cross board members Maggie Sablan, left, Jean Sablan, second left, Tayna Camacho, second right, and Somia Quan, right, Tuesday, Sept. 24. Delta presented ARC with donated airline tickets, valued at more than \$10,000, to support this year's Club 200, the NMI Chapter's largest fundraising event of the year, scheduled for Oct. 19, at the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan.

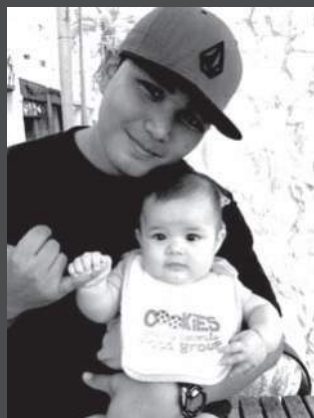
ARC

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



Belated happy birthday to our dear Jhojho Savellano, who celebrated his birthday on Sept. 25! We wish you good health and more birthdays to come. Greetings come from your Golden Racquet Badminton Club family, NMBA, Sun Palace, and MakeOver Beauty Salon.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy birthday, Jun Falig! May our Lord continue to bless you with many more birthdays to come. Also, keeping Baby Irie Lei in our prayers. We love you both.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy 22nd birthday to my love and the mother of our kids, Loli Pangelinan! I made this special birthday shoutout to you to show the world how much you mean to me. I thank you for taking care of me and my kids. I'm one lucky guy and I thank god for having you with me. I love you. Greetings come from Jun, the family, and kids.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy Birthday to Pasqual DL-Guerrero, who celebrates his birthday today. Cheers to you and another year, man! Have a great one! From all your family and friends.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy, happy birthday to an awesomely great, phenomenal, compassionate, strong-willed, stubborn-headed, loyal woman who is celebrating her birthday today, Mama/Auntie Daisy Mae Villagomez Bier! Much love and blessings coming from your SAES familia, your hubby, your children, your Peanut, your counseling colleagues, most especially your Kiridu!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



HOUSE SESSION

House members review documents during Monday's session wherein they passed a bill amending the newly signed fiscal year 2014 budget law to correct an \$80 million oversight in the Retirement Fund's operational funding that would ensure retirees will receive their pensions.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



SENATE SESSION

Senators review documents during Monday's session, wherein they passed a bill allowing video lottery in certain hotels and airport departure areas. The revenue-generating bill meant to help the NMI Retirement Fund and scholarship programs now heads to the governor for action.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



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Mahogany
Dining Set
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5pc. Basic
Dining Set
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Dispenser Tall
\$169.95



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Cooler **\$29.95**



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Northwest Territory Deluxe
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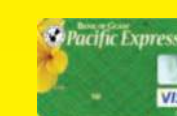


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Business

Amazon unveils Kindle Fire HDX



In this image distributed on Tuesday, Sept. 24, 2013, Amazon.com founder and CEO Jeff Bezos introduces the all-new Kindle Fire HDX 8.9", right, and Kindle Fire HDX 7" tablet in Seattle.

SEATTLE (AP)—Amazon is refreshing its line-up of tablet computers with new devices called Kindle Fire HDX, which are significantly faster and lighter than the previous generation.

The 7-inch and 8.9-inch versions also have sharper, more colorful displays than older models, and both have more pixels per inch than the latest iPad.

To help those who are unfamiliar with tablets, the new Kindles come with a feature called "Mayday", which allows users to summon a live customer service representative in a tiny video window. The helpers can explain new features or troubleshoot problems while guiding users with on-screen hand scribbles. They can even take control of the device from afar.

CEO Jeff Bezos introduced the feature to reporters Tuesday, saying it is "completely

unique" and takes advantage of Amazon's massive cloud computing and customer service infrastructure. It also builds on Amazon.com Inc.'s reputation for excellent customer service.

"You shouldn't have to be afraid of your device," Bezos said.

In a demo, Bezos asked an on-screen customer service rep to recommend a hot app. The rep mentioned "Angry Birds: Star Wars II". Bezos also received instructions on how to set time limits on various activities for children.

While the new Kindles are upgraded in several ways, Amazon also cut the price on what will be its entry-level 7-inch tablet, the Kindle Fire HD with 8 gigabytes of memory, to \$139 from a \$199 version that had 16 GB of memory. That makes the tablet just \$20 more than Amazon's latest dedicated e-reader, the Kindle

Paperwhite. The Kindle Fire HD is sheathed in a new magnesium alloy body like the HDX models, but has the same screen resolution and processing power of the older model.

Stephen Baker, a consumer technology analyst with research firm NPD Group, said the price cut to the Kindle Fire HD will do more to help Amazon compete in the tablet market than the added features on the newer models.

"That's where that model needs to be priced," Baker said, explaining that there are numerous manufacturers with tablets with screens that measure 7 inches diagonally—all priced around \$150. "A big focus in that 7-inch category is just price."

In the May-July period, Kindles accounted for 17 percent of all tablets sold in the U.S., compared to 48 percent for Apple's iPad and 8 percent for Samsung's Galaxy line, according to NPD.

research group, said Tuesday that its consumer confidence index dropped to 79.7 in September. That's down from August's reading of 81.8, which was slightly higher than previously estimated. Consumers' confidence is closely watched because their spending accounts for 70 percent of economic activity. The September reading was only slightly below June's reading of 82.1, the highest in 5 1/2 years.

IMF cuts Russia's growth prospects

MOSCOW (AP)—The International Monetary Fund has reduced its estimate of Russia's economic growth, citing weak investment and global market turbulence. The IMF said Tuesday it expects Russia's GDP to grow at 1.5 percent in 2013, the third consecutive downgrade since early this year when the fund put that figure at 3.7 percent. The IMF said capital outflows have been spurred by pressure on the exchange rate, the local bond market and equities. The Russian government forecasts a 1.8 percent GDP growth this year. The IMF expects Russia's GDP growth of 3 percent next year, if the global economic environment improves.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

US home prices rise 12.4 pct., most in 7 1/2 years

WASHINGTON (AP)—U.S. home prices rose 12.4 percent in July compared with a year ago, the most since February 2006. An increase in sales on a limited supply of available homes drove the gains. The Standard & Poor's/Case-Shiller 20-city home price index reported Tuesday improved from June, when it rose 12.1 percent from a year ago. And all 20 cities posted gains in July from the previous month and compared with a year ago. Still, the month-over-month price gains shrank in 15 cities in July compared with the previous month, indicating prices may be peaking. And the month-over-month gains in the 20-city price index have slowed for three straight months.

US consumer confidence dips as jobs outlook dims

WASHINGTON (AP)—Americans' confidence in the economy fell slightly in September from August, as many became less optimistic about hiring and pay increases over the next six months. The Conference Board, a New York-based private

Nation

Applicants wrongly denied US citizenship

BROWNSVILLE, Texas (AP)—For more than two decades, Sigifredo Saldana Iracheta insisted he was a U.S. citizen, repeatedly explaining to immigration officials that he was born to an American father and a Mexican mother in a city just south of the Texas border.

Year after year, the federal government rejected his claims, deporting him at least four times and at one point detaining him for nearly two years as he sought permission to join his wife and three children in South Texas.

In rejecting Saldana's bid for citizenship, the government sought to apply an old law that cited Article 314 of the Mexican Constitution, which supposedly dealt with legitimizing out-of-wedlock births. But there was a problem: The Mexican Constitution has no such article.

The error appears to have originated in 1978, and it's been repeated ever since, frustrating an untold number of people who are legally entitled to U.S. citizenship but couldn't get it.

"What this looks like is nobody's ever checked it out. And it is shocking," said Matthew Hoppock, a Kansas City attorney who specializes in federal appeals related to immigration issues.

Saldana's case was finally resolved earlier this month, when the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals dismissed the government's explanation of a "typo" and ruled that he had been a citizen since birth. The error, the court said, had been "perpetuated and uncorrected" by the Department of Homeland Security.

For the 49-year-old laborer and sometime carpenter, the Sept. 11 decision ended a grueling and costly ordeal. After serving a prison sentence for a 1989 drug conviction in Texas, he told authorities he was a U.S. citizen, but was deported in 1992. Between 2002 and 2007, he applied four times for a certificate of citizenship. Each time he was deported, he was separated from his family.

"I have always lived with a fear in my house that which ever night, they'll arrive and arrest me," said Saldana, who was born in 1964 in the border city of Matamoros, across the Rio Grande from Brownsville.

Days after the ruling, Saldana still seethed with frustration for all the rejections, for every time his family had to scrape together money to hire another lawyer. He rued time missed with his children, the low wages he endured as a worker without papers and the



In this Sept. 18, 2013, photo Sigifredo Saldana Iracheta, right and his wife Laura Saldana pose for a photo outside his sister's home in Brownsville, Texas.

responsibilities that fell on his wife, Laura.

Saldana argued that he automatically became a U.S. citizen at birth because his father was an American.

But because his parents were not married, U.S. authorities claimed he should have been "legitimated" by age 21 in a process they claimed was governed by Mexican law, specifically the phantom Article 314.

A 2008 letter from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services cited the article and said the only way for Saldana to gain legal legitimacy would have been for his parents to marry.

The marriage never happened, but it didn't have to.

Saldana's birth certificate registered with the Mexican state of Tamaulipas includes both his parents' names. The appellate court said that was enough.

At oral arguments last month in Houston, Judge Jennifer Walker Elrod was incredulous.

"So all along, that's been in this case, and you all have been citing this over and over again to people for years now, and you can't even look it up in Mexican law," Walker Elrod said to government attorney Aimee Carmichael. "It doesn't even exist."

Homeland Security officials did not respond to a request for comment.

The court said the government had "relied on provisions of the Mexican Constitution that either never existed or do not say what DHS claims they say."

That last part references the government's use of a different provision of the Mexican Constitution, Article 130, to deny Saldana's claim in 2004. That article exists, but says nothing close to what the government claims.

Hoppock said such mistakes are rare but become more common when interpretations of foreign law are involved.

"Most of the people here talking about it don't really know what the Mexican Constitution says," he said.

He added: "These people are citizens by their birth, and for 35 years the government has been telling them you are not citizens because of this law that doesn't exist."

Ignacio Pinto-Leon, assistant director of the Center for U.S. and Mexican Law at the University of Houston Law Center, said the Mexican Constitution contains little related to family law and nothing about legitimizing out-of-wedlock births. The court's hypothesis that the government was actually trying to reference state civil code instead of the constitution is possible, but would still be mistaken, he said.

It's unclear just how many cases have been affected by the error. The court's opinion cited four in addition to the original one in 1978, and there are surely others. Immigration cases are not open to the public.

Kathryn Mattingly, a spokeswoman for the Justice Department's Executive Office for Immigration Review, which adjudicates immigration cases, said in an email that the agency is reviewing the appellate decision.

Most denials are never appealed, often because the people involved do not have the money to pursue the matter to higher courts.

Saldana didn't always have the money either, but he was persistent.

He would "get to a certain point and have to stop, and a lot of people don't have the money to go beyond the initial denial," his attorney, Marlene Dougherty, said. "They figure 'Well, immigration said this so they're right.'"

Many immigration attorneys are frustrated with the constant misapplication of the law, she added. But the recent decision in Saldana's favor gives her new hope.

Asia

Massive Pakistan quake kills 210

QUETTA, Pakistan (AP)—Rescuers struggled Wednesday to help thousands of people injured and left homeless after their houses collapsed in a massive earthquake in southwestern Pakistan, as the death toll rose overnight to 210, officials said.

The magnitude 7.7 quake struck in the remote district of Awaran in Pakistan's Baluchistan province on Tuesday afternoon. Such a quake is considered major, capable of widespread and heavy damage.

The quake was felt as far away as New Delhi, the Indian capital, some 1,200 kilometers (about 740 miles) away, but no damage or injuries were immediately reported there.

ISLAMABAD (AP)—Pakistani officials are investigating whether the powerful earthquake that killed dozens also created a new island off the southern coast.

The Pakistan Meteorological Department's director general, Arif Mahmood, says



witnesses have reported that a small island has appeared near the port of Gwadar.

He says the temblor could have caused the earth under the sea to rise, but officials need to investigate further.

Gwadar Police Chief Pervez Umrani says the new land mass is visible from the beach. He says the mass is about 9 meters (30 feet) high and 100 meters (109 yards) long.

A provincial official, Additional Home Secretary of Baluchistan

Zahid bin Maqsood, put the death toll at 210 and said 375 people had been injured, while a spokesman for the provincial government, Jan Mohammad Bulaidi, put the death toll at 216 - conflicting figures likely due to the difficulty in contacting local officials and people in the remote region.

In Pakistani cities such as Karachi along the Arabian Sea and Quetta, the capital of Baluchistan province, people ran into the streets in fear, praying for their lives when the quake hit.

The Pakistani military said it was rushing troops and helicopters to Awaran district and the nearby area of Khuzdar. Local officials said they were sending doctors, food and 1,000 tents for people who had nowhere to sleep as strong aftershocks continued to shake the region.

Most of the victims were killed when their houses collapsed. Pakistani television showed pictures of the area. Walls of the mud brick houses had collapsed, and people were gathered outside because they had no homes to sleep in.

China lists items banned from export to NKorea

BEIJING (AP)—China has tightened restrictions on North Korea by issuing a long list of weapons-related technology and materials banned from export to its neighbor, reflecting Beijing's desire to get Pyongyang to scrap its nuclear programs and rejoin disarmament talks.

The announcement posted Tuesday on the Chinese Commerce Ministry website comes as two American experts said that Pyongyang can now make crucial equipment for producing uranium-based bombs on its own, cutting out imports that had been one of the few ways outsiders could monitor the country's secretive atomic work.

The list of forbidden items includes those with both civilian and military applications in the nuclear, ballistic, chemical and biological fields. The notice said the list was aimed at

boosting enforcement of U.N. Security Council resolutions on North Korea passed since 2006.

The move is a continuation of China's new policy of putting slightly greater pressure on North Korea to coax it back to disarmament talks, said Li Mingjiang, China security expert at Singapore's Nanyang Technological University.

China could have simply implemented the ban, but announcing it so publicly was a sign to the U.S. and the rest of the international community that Beijing is sincere in meeting its commitments, Li said. He said it's also a rebuke to Pyongyang.

"The leaders in Pyongyang will hate this. They'll be angry," Li said. Pyongyang likely will "swallow the bitter pill" and may respond with concessions, he said.

China's fallen politician appeals guilty verdict

BEIJING (AP)—Disgraced Chinese politician Bo Xilai has appealed his guilty verdict, a person close to the case said Tuesday, in a rare move that is consistent with his defiant stance but unlikely to change the outcome.

The person with direct knowledge of the case, but who did not wish to be identified, said the former Politburo member made the appeal orally upon the delivery of the verdict issued by the Jinan Intermediate People's Court in eastern China on Sunday.

The court announced that it found Bo guilty of embezzlement, bribery and abuse of power and sentenced him to life in prison. A copy of the verdict

was later delivered to Bo, when he informed the court of his decision to appeal, the source said.

Chinese law allows appeals to be made orally, and the source said a written appeal to the higher court—Shandong Provincial Supreme People's Court—would also be submitted soon.

The provincial court is expected to make a ruling within two months, and it can uphold the lower court's decision, modify the sentence or ask for a retrial. But it is expected to stick to Jinan court's verdict because it is believed to be a decision by China's highest leadership, which controls the court system.

The Sunday verdict has effectively ended the political career

of Bo, who was once an up-and-coming political star but whose political ambition and penchant for publicity ran afoul of China's consensus rule and posed a challenge to Xi Jinping, who was to ascend to China's top leadership position, in a power transition last year.

Bo's downfall was set in motion by his wife's murder of a British business associate, followed by his police chief's failed attempt to defect to a U.S. consulate.

A populist politician, Bo still has grassroots support in regions where he once ruled because of his campaigns against organized crime and social welfare policies such as affordable housing.

World

Kenya declares victory in siege

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP)—Kenyan authorities prepared for the gruesome task of recovering dozens more victims than initially feared after the country's president declared an end Tuesday to the four-day siege of a Nairobi mall by al-Qaida-linked terrorists. Officials said the death count could jump by another 60 or more.

"We have ashamed and defeated our attackers," President Uhuru Kenyatta said in a televised address to the nation that was delayed for hours as gunbattles persisted at the upscale Westgate mall. "Kenya has stared down evil and triumphed."

Despite Kenyatta's declaration, troops remained deployed at the vast complex, and security officials told The Associated Press attackers with weapons or booby traps might still be inside. A plan to remove bodies was aborted because of continued skirmishes inside the mall, where three floors had collapsed.

Describing the victims as "innocent, harmless civilians" of "various nationalities, races, ethnic, cultural, religious and other walks of life," a solemn-looking Kenyatta reported the known death toll: at least 61 civilians, along with six security forces and five al-Shabab militants.

About 175 people were



Relatives of Johnny Mutinda Musango, 48, weep after identifying his body at the city morgue in Nairobi, Kenya, Tuesday Sept. 24 2013.

injured, including 62 who remain hospitalized, he said, acknowledging that "several" bodies remained trapped in the rubble, including those of terrorists.

However, another government official said a far higher toll was feared and morgue workers were preparing to receive up to 60 more bodies. A Western embassy official said the number of additional dead could go as high as 100. Both officials spoke on condition of anonymity in order to discuss information not publicly disclosed.

"They're just seeing dead bodies. They've found no survivors, no live hostages," said a Nairobi resident whose brother was taking part in the military sweep inside the mall. He

spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity because his brother was not authorized to publicly release the information.

Kenyatta said 11 suspects had been arrested; authorities previously announced that seven had been taken into custody at the airport and three elsewhere.

"These cowards will meet justice as will their accomplices and patrons, wherever they are," an emotional Kenyatta declared.

"We confronted this evil without flinching, contained our deep grief and pain, and conquered it," he said. "As a nation, our head is bloodied, but unbowed."

Kenyatta declared three days of national mourning starting Wednesday.

WORLD BRIEFS

Mass starvation feared in Syria; 'We have no food'

BEIRUT (AP)—Syrian opposition groups and international relief organizations are warning of the risk of mass starvation across the country, especially in the besieged Damascus suburbs where a gas attack killed hundreds last month. With the world's attention focused on the regime's chemical weapons, activists said six people—including an 18-month girl—have died for lack of food in one of the stricken suburbs in recent weeks. Save the Children said in an appeal Monday that more than 4 million Syrians, more than half of them children, do not have enough to eat. Food shortages have been compounded by an explosion in prices.

Obama, Rouhani back resumption of nuclear talks

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—Hopeful yet unyielding, President Barack Obama and new Iranian President Hasan Rouhani both spoke up fervently for improved relations and a resumption of stalled nuclear talks Tuesday at the U.N.—but gave no ground on the long-held positions that have scuttled previous attempts to break the impasse. The leaders' separate appearances at the United Nations General Assembly came amid heightened speculation about a thaw in U.S.-Iranian relations following the election of Rouhani, a more-moderate sounding cleric. Obama and Rouhani traded their public messages during addresses hours apart at the annual U.N. meetings.

Peru now No. 1 in coca leaf,

displacing Colombia

LIMA, Peru (AP)—Peru has displaced Colombia as the world's leading producer of coca leaf, although it succeeded for the first time in seven years in cutting output of the illicit plant used to make cocaine, the United Nations said Tuesday. Peru cut its area under coca cultivation to 241 square miles (62,500 hectares), a decrease of 3.4 percent from 2011, the U.N. Office of Drugs and Crime said. The agency had already said last month that Colombia's crop was down 25 percent to 185 square miles (48,000 hectares), but it held off until now with word that Peru had regained the distinction as the world's No. 1 coca leaf source that it had not held since the mid-1990s.

Benedict defends abuse record in letter to atheist

VATICAN CITY (AP)—Seven months after leaving the papacy, emeritus Pope Benedict XVI broke his self-imposed silence Tuesday by releasing a letter to one of Italy's best-known atheists in which he denied covering up for sexually abusive priests and defended Christianity to non-believers. It was the first work published by Benedict since he retired and his first-ever denial of personal responsibility for the sex scandal. But what made the letter published in La Repubblica more remarkable was that it appeared just two weeks after Pope Francis penned a similar letter to the newspaper's atheist editor. The Vatican spokesman, the Rev. Federico Lombardi, said the appearance of the letters was pure coincidence.

Focus

By CRAIG WELCH
THE SEATTLE TIMES

DUTCH HARBOR, Alaska—For decades, the crab piled up in fishing boats like gold coins hauled from a rich and fertile sea.

But the very ocean that nursed these creatures may prove to be this industry's undoing.

New research earlier this year shows that Bristol Bay red king crab—the supersized monster that has come to symbolize the fortunes of Alaska's crab fleet—could fall victim to the changing chemistry of the oceans.

Barring a hasty reduction in carbon dioxide emissions—or evidence that the creatures could acclimate to changing sea conditions—a team of scientists fears Alaska's \$100 million red king crab fishery could crash in decades to come.

That grim possibility also raises alarm about the crab fleet's other major moneymaker, snow crab.

"With red king crab, it's all doom and gloom," said Robert Foy, who oversaw the crab research for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in Kodiak, Alaska. "With snow crab, there's so little known we just can't say. But we don't see anything from our experience that's good for any of these crab. Some is just not as bad as others."

For decades, these storied crustaceans have drawn men and women from Seattle and Alaska to the far reaches of the North Pacific. There, adventurers wrestled 800-pound steel cages amid raging seas and aprons of pack ice, hoping to strike it rich on a bounty of flaky meat and accordion legs.

The emerging issues with Alaska's crab underscore the difficulty of trying to comprehend the depth of fallout from ocean acidification.

For reasons scientists don't always understand, similar species, even those living side by side, often respond to changing water chemistry in remarkably different ways.

"The real issue here is unpredictability," said Richard Aronson, a Florida-based marine scientist who has tracked king crab in Antarctica. "There are all these unanticipated collateral impacts. The problem is, most of them are nasty surprises."

Certainly the threat to king crab was unexpected.

As humans pump carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, a quarter of it gets absorbed by the seas. That lowers the water's pH and alters the availability of carbonate ions, which crab rely on to build their exoskeletons.

Many crab species appear hardy in the face of souring seas, or at least not quite so frail. Exceedingly corrosive waters

actually pump up Maryland blue crab to three times their size and turn them into voracious predators. Sour waters kill Dungeness crab, but far less often than Alaska red king crab.

When Foy and his colleagues exposed baby red king crab to CO₂ levels expected by midcentury, the young died more than twice as often as crab raised in normal water. When researchers boosted CO₂ to levels expected decades later, red king crab died in far larger numbers.

"The overall survival at the larval and juvenile stage is extremely low," Foy said. "It decreases to a point that is likely to affect the population of the crab."

Such a loss would exact quite a toll.

"You say king crab, and most people associate that with Alaska," said longtime crab-boat captain Kale Garcia, who lives outside Kent. "So, for it to go away, that's a huge part of the identity for Alaska. I think it'd

SEA CHANGE:

Scientists fear changing chemistry's impact on crab industry

be devastating."

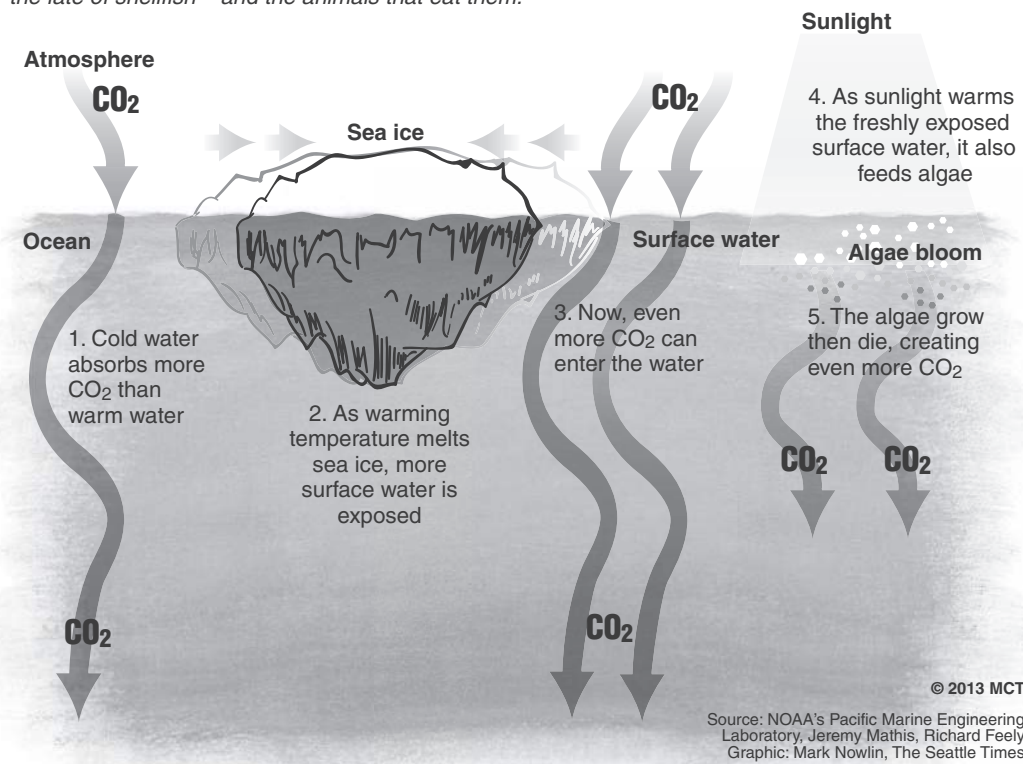
Red king crab is the showboat of the Northwest's billion-dollar fishing industry. It is a television sensation and a marketer's dream, its image emblazoned on bumper stickers, mugs, caps and T-shirts throughout the Pacific Northwest and Alaska.

It is even a tourist attraction: Cruise ship passengers stopping in Ketchikan pay \$159 for a half-day ride to watch crews haul marine life aboard a 107-foot crab boat that appeared on Discovery Channel's "Deadliest Catch."

The 54 million pounds of snow crab caught in 2011 brought the fleet \$115 million dockside, while 14.8 million pounds of red king crab brought

Fast changing Arctic, Antarctic sea chemistry

With the CO₂ increasing quickly in the North Pacific, scientists worry about the fate of shellfish—and the animals that eat them.



nearly as much—\$92.5 million. And it can fetch \$39.99 a pound at Pike Place Market.

Crabbing attracts tough adrenaline junkies who disappear for weeks into the storm-buffed frontier of the Bering Sea.

"People like that don't plan an exit strategy out of the fishery. There is no exit strategy," Garcia said. "They're like, 'This is what we do. We fish.'"

NOAA researchers are using Bob Foy's research to develop models and a timeline that charts the potential collapse of king crab. But things are changing quickly.

"Bob reared those crabs under conditions that we thought

were some time off in the future," said Jeremy Mathis, a NOAA oceanographer who specializes in Alaska and the Arctic. "And what we actually found is that at certain times of the year, the conditions near the bottom in the Bering Sea were actually worse than the conditions that Bob was raising his crabs under."

There's no evidence that souring seas have yet altered wild populations—the most corrosive seas now occur at times when red king crab aren't as susceptible.

Jim Stone, co-owner of the Bering Sea crab boat Arctic Hunter, is trying to remain optimistic.

"We're scared to death," Stone said. "But we've heard a lot of horror stories before."

The research comes with plenty of caveats. No laboratory setting can ever properly approximate what happens in nature. Scientists are still conducting genetic tests to see if king crab might have the ability to adapt.

"It's not unreasonable to assume, for example, that they might move, that some form of rapid evolution will occur, that they may become somewhat more robust," said Andre Punt, a University of Washington professor who worked on the research and assesses crab for fishing regulators.

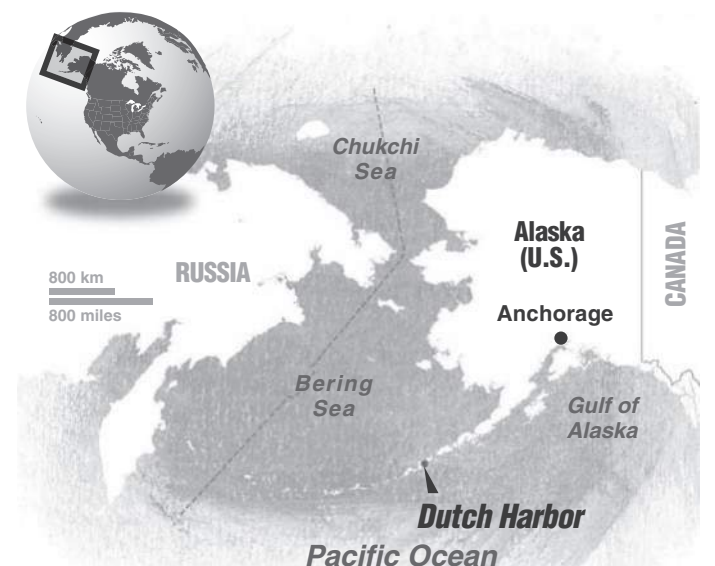
The situation also might be worse than first thought. Sour-

ing seas could hit crab at several additional stages of development or attack their food.

Ocean acidification is also not the only marine-world change underway. Warming seas, also caused by carbon emissions, could compound crab's troubles.

"Anytime you're working with an organism at the edge of its threshold and you add another stressor, that's going to be an issue," Foy said. "When you're working in the subarctic environment like we are in the Bering Sea, these animals are always living at the edge of their tolerance in one season or another."

No two Alaskan crab species have responded to CO₂ exactly the same way. They seem to react differently depending on where they live at certain stages of their lives.



Golden king crab, for example, live extremely deep, below 1,000 feet, where waters already are naturally rich in CO₂. That appeared to make them highly tolerant of sea-chemistry changes.

Meanwhile, baby Tanner crab exposed to high CO₂ died at a higher rate than normal—but nowhere near as often as king crab.

With snow crab, scientists have struggled to perform extensive tests. The animals are just too hard to keep alive in the lab.

It's also hard to know how Foy's results will translate to other species elsewhere.

A related king crab species has recently been seen by the millions in Antarctica, where it is devouring shellfish and starfish. Scientists are debating whether or not the crab is native.

Will more acidic conditions kill these creatures or drive them out? Since they often occupy far deeper water, does that mean they instead might thrive?

"There's a lot of ifs, ifs, ifs," said Aronson, who documented Antarctica's crabs during a cruise in 2010. "I've found that the number of times the surprise with carbon-dioxide emissions has been undesirable far outweighs the times it's been desirable."

The weird purgatory for these signature creatures unnerved Brett Robinson, who captains Stone's Arctic Hunter.

"It's scary as hell, if something doesn't get figured out," Robinson said. "I don't know."

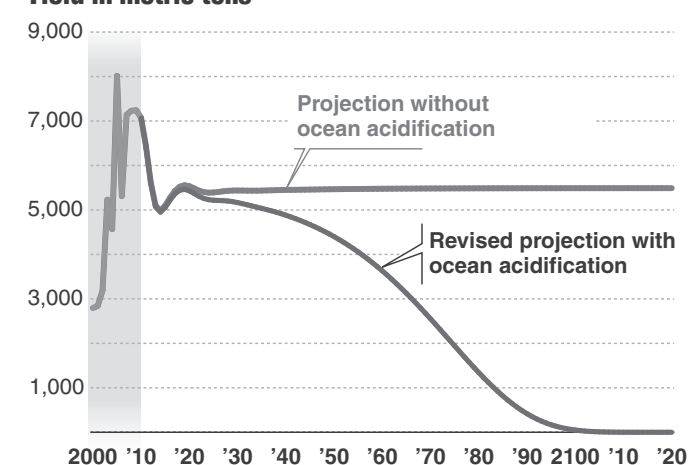
The rising threat from acidification has insiders closely watching the work of a shellfish hatchery in Seward, Alaska, that for years has been learning how to raise baby king crab from scratch. The program started as an experiment to see if baby crab could be transplanted near Kodiak Island, where massive crab populations crashed in the 1970s and 1980s.

Crab are most susceptible to corroding seas as babies, when a mere fraction of young survive even in perfect conditions. In this hatchery, where water can be controlled, survival is up to 500 times higher.

Crab catch projections

Early projections suggest trouble ahead for red king crab fishing in Alaska due to acidification.

Yield in metric tons



NOTE: Fisheries managers used survival rates from CO₂ research on red king crab, fishing data, population dynamics and economic models to make this projection, but they maintain their data is rough and incomplete

Source: NOAA, Alaska Fisheries Science Center

Graphic: Mark Nowlin

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Environment

Warm, wet summers can mean more mold in homes

By RICK LIMPERT

THE ATLANTA JOURNAL-CONSTITUTION

ATLANTA—First-time home buyer Kelly Sullivan knew to expect the unexpected when she and her husband, Sean, started looking for an east Cobb, Ga., home last year. With Sean just having left the Army for a civilian job and a toddler in tow, the couple had one surprise remaining after their offer was accepted on their dream home.

Mold.

Sullivan was led to believe a previous mold problem had been fixed, but she decided to call in a mold inspector before closing to give her peace of mind.

The mold was still there.

"Thankfully, we did our due diligence," she said, "and we received a mold allowance from the seller to take care of the issue." According to the National Weather Service, temperatures have been lower than average this summer, and Atlanta is on pace to have its wettest year ever. That means homes, schools and businesses such as restaurants are susceptible to mold outbreaks, and precautions should be taken, such as running a dehumidifier in your basement and making sure gutters and downspouts have been cleaned. If you think you have mold spores, a thorough visual assessment is a starting point, said Kip McCullough of Atlanta Mold Testing Services in Vinings, Ga.

A more accurate measure in mold testing would be the use of an infrared thermal imaging camera. These cameras are now being used by professional inspectors.

"Mold spores are microscopic and are not always seen during



Peter Caminiti, of Paramus, sprays bleach solution to prevent mold while visiting his shore home in Manahawkin, New Jersey, March 2, 2013. MCT

TIPS FOR PREVENTING MOLD IN YOUR HOME

- Run a dehumidifier in your basement
- Run your air conditioner, even in your basement, and use a programmable thermostat to keep air moving
- Gutters and downspouts should be entirely cleaned of all debris
- Grading: The ground around the perimeter of the home should slope away from the foundation
- A plastic vapor barrier or a polyethylene plastic should be installed inside every crawl space to cover the dirt floor
- Inspect your home on a regular basis for mold and don't ignore a potential problem area

CHECKLIST TO FOLLOW IF MOLD IS FOUND

- Determine whether the affected area is "climate-controlled"
- Locate the source of the moisture problem
- Ensure the water or moisture problem is identified and solved
- Contact a mold removal service and check its credentials
- Check your insurance policies to see whether mold remediation is covered

a visual inspection, and it can only be detected through mold testing," said McCullough, who said his phones are already ringing off the hook.

McCullough said his high-tech cameras can find mold spores hidden in concrete or even drywall.

That's important, as mold in a living space can lead to an assortment of health problems, said the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Ginger L. Chew.

"Exposure to molds can cause symptoms such as nasal stuffiness, eye irritation, wheezing or skin irritation," said Chew, an

epidemiologist with the CDC's National Center for Environmental Health, Air Pollution and Respiratory Health Branch. "Severe reactions may include fever and shortness of breath, and some people with chronic lung illnesses, such as obstructive lung disease, may develop mold infections in their lungs." Sullivan said she was aware that mold could cause recurring health issues, and with a toddler, she was prepared to walk away from that house.

In addition to homes, schools are often a breeding ground for different types of mold. In the past month, mold has delayed

the start of school in cities from Florida to Massachusetts. Booker T. Washington High School in Atlanta counted four areas that tested positive for mold in August. While it didn't delay the start of school, the affected areas were closed off and not accessible to students until the problem was rectified.

Once a mold problem is diagnosed and the initial testing is complete, a remediation company is called in to bring things back to normal.

Neil Gallien of Global Prevention Services of Georgia in Buford says he started getting calls early in the summer from homes that never had a previous mold issue.

"It's so widespread this year," Gallien said. "It's tough to look back, but many of these (mold) outbreaks could've been avoided by simply running a dehumidifier." Gallien said repeated exposure to humidity is actually more dangerous than your foundation having direct contact with water.

"Persistent humidities of over 60 percent will lead to mold," Gallien said.

In a hot, wet summer, that can be hard to avoid.

Should your home need remediation, it can be expensive. Many times it can run more than \$10,000, and rarely will insurance cover the cost.

Gallien also recommends testing after remediation to make sure everything has returned to normal.

Sullivan concurs. It saved her family money in the long run.

"Finding mold in your home can be emotional, but you can't ignore the problem," Sullivan said. "Even a little issue is big money when it comes to mold."

What 95-pct. certainty of warming means to scientists

WASHINGTON (AP)—Top scientists from a variety of fields say they are about as certain that global warming is a real, man-made threat as they are that cigarettes kill.

They are as sure about climate change as they are about the age of the universe. They say they are more certain about climate change than they are that vitamins make you healthy or that dioxin in Superfund sites is dangerous.

They'll even put a number on how certain they are about climate change. But that number isn't 100 percent. It's 95 percent.

And for some non-scientists, that's just not good enough.

There's a mismatch between what scientists say about how certain they are and what the general public thinks the experts mean, specialists say.

That is an issue because this week, scientists from around

the world have gathered in Stockholm for a meeting of a U.N. panel on climate change, and they will probably release a report saying it is "extremely likely"—which they define in footnotes as 95 percent certain—that humans are mostly to blame for temperatures that have climbed since 1951.

One climate scientist involved says the panel may even boost it in some places to "virtually certain" and 99 percent.

Some climate-change deniers have looked at 95 percent and scoffed. After all, most people wouldn't get on a plane that had only a 95 percent certainty of landing safely, risk experts say.

But in science, 95 percent certainty is often considered the gold standard for certainty.

"Uncertainty is inherent in every scientific judgment," said Johns Hopkins University epidemiologist Thomas Burke. "Will

the sun come up in the morning?" Scientists know the answer is yes, but they can't really say so with 100 percent certainty because there are so many factors out there that are not quite understood or under control.

George Gray, director of the Center for Risk Science and Public Health at George Washington University, said that demanding absolute proof on things such as climate doesn't make sense.

"There's a group of people who seem to think that when scientists say they are uncertain, we shouldn't do anything," said Gray, who was chief scientist for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency during the George W. Bush administration. "That's crazy. We're uncertain and we buy insurance."

With the U.N. panel about to weigh in on the effects of greenhouse gas emissions from

the burning of oil, coal and gas, The Associated Press asked scientists who specialize in climate, physics, epidemiology, public health, statistics and risk just what in science is more certain than human-caused climate change, what is about the same, and what is less.

They said gravity is a good example of something more certain than climate change. Climate change "is not as sure as if you drop a stone it will hit the Earth," Princeton University climate scientist Michael Oppenheimer said. "It's not certain, but it's close."

Arizona State University physicist Lawrence Krauss said the 95 percent quoted for climate change is equivalent to the current certainty among physicists that the universe is 13.8 billion years old.

The president of the prestigious National Academy of Sciences,

Ralph Cicerone, and more than a dozen other scientists contacted by the AP said the 95 percent certainty regarding climate change is most similar to the confidence scientists have in the decades' worth of evidence that cigarettes are deadly.

"What is understood does not violate any mechanism that we understand about cancer," while "statistics confirm what we know about cancer," said Cicerone, an atmospheric scientist. Add to that a "very high consensus" among scientists about the harm of tobacco, and it sounds similar to the case for climate change, he said.

But even the best study can be nitpicked because nothing is perfect, and that's the strategy of both tobacco defenders and climate deniers, said Stanton Glantz, a medicine professor at the University of California, San Francisco and director of its to-

bacco control research center.

George Washington's Gray said the 95 percent number the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change will probably adopt may not be realistic. In general, regardless of the field of research, experts tend to overestimate their confidence in their certainty, he said. Other experts said the 95 percent figure is too low.

Jeff Severinghaus, a geoscientist at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, said that through the use of radioactive isotopes, scientists are more than 99 percent sure that much of the carbon in the air has human fingerprints on it. And because of basic physics, scientists are 99 percent certain that carbon traps heat in what is called the greenhouse effect.

But the role of nature and all sorts of other factors bring the number down to 95 percent when you want to say that the majority of the warming is human-caused, he said.

Life & Style

2013 MacArthur 'genius grant' winners unveiled

CHICAGO (AP)—The old man couldn't control his diabetes, no matter how closely he followed his doctor's instructions. A nurse visited him to find out why the insulin wasn't working, only to watch the nearly blind man inadvertently inject himself with a syringe filled with nothing but air.

It sounds simple to track a patient outside of office visits. But the Chicago-based John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation found the idea genius.

Jeffrey Brenner, a doctor and founder of the organization that dispatches medical professionals to the doors of the desperately poor residents of Camden, N.J., was named Wednesday as one of 24 to receive a \$625,000 "genius grant" from the foundation.

"This is an acknowledgment that we are headed in the right direction," Brenner said.

The 44-year-old created the Camden Coalition of Healthcare Providers as a means to find and track the poorest patients with the most complex medical is-

ssues. Those patients are visited wherever they are—at home, in shelters—and escorted to doctor's appointments.

"We cut, scan, zap and hospitalize (patients)," said Brenner, whose group is now working with 10 communities to develop similar systems. "But we forget we need to take care of them."

The eclectic group of grant recipients includes scientists, artists, historians, writers, a lawyer, a statistician and a photographer. They can spend the money however they like, for seeing things others haven't, asking questions others haven't asked and finding new solutions to old problems.

The awards, given annually

since 1981, are doled out over a five-year period. This year's class brings the number of recipients to nearly 900, and also will be given the largest amount ever—\$125,000 more than last year. Shrouded in secrecy, the selection process involves anonymous nominators and selectors who make final recommendations to the foundation's Board of Directors.

A National Public Radio report about the Library of Congress worrying about damaging old recordings just by playing them sparked the imagination of Carl Haber, a 54-year-old experimental physicist at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in California.

He began to think how one could use precision optical measuring techniques employed in particle research to try to pull sounds from fragile or crumbling cylinders as well as discs and tinfoil.

"Using scientific cameras and measurement tools that just use light, we create essentially a picture ... and then write a program where the computer ana-

lyzes the image and calculates mathematically how the needle would move rather than use the needle," he said.

The result: Bringing alive the voices of the dead, from Alexander Graham Bell's voice from the 1800s to a Native American language that fell silent with the last of its possessors. The thousands of recordings from bygone eras around the world are of "great value to anthropologists, the study of folklore, national culture," he said.

But there's more to it, as Haber found out when he heard Bell respond to a small mistake made during the recording.

"To hear someone caught off guard, you are actually seeing the humanity of these people," Haber said.

Robin Fleming's work has been to show the humanity of nations passed over in history books. A Medieval historian at Boston College, she has focused on Great Britain after the fall of the Roman Empire, starting in the 5th century, by analyzing things like coins, pots and even

tooth enamel found in settlements and cemeteries to create a picture of their lives.

What she discovered was the people of the time were so determined to carry on the ways of those who came before, they went to cemeteries to dig up artifacts that would help them do that—including containers that held cremated remains.

"They knock(ed) the ash out, give them a wash and put them on the table," Fleming, 57, said.

With an eye to a more contemporary, but just as forgotten, issue, attorney Margaret Stock focuses on military personnel and their families who she says are victimized by the nation's immigration laws.

After Sept. 11, as politicians asked the nation to take care of those fighting for their country, Stock was getting call after call, hearing things like a soldier begging her to stop immigration officials from deporting his wife to Mexico.

"He's on the tarmac ... about to be deployed and says his wife took a wrong turn into a construc-

tion zone, was picked up by immigration, they had her in jail and were trying to deport her," said Stock, who lives in Anchorage, Alaska. "The pain that's being caused right now is tremendous."

To help, Stock created the American Immigration Lawyers Association Military Assistance Program, which puts volunteer attorneys across the nation with military families that need help.

Recipients of the grants say the money will only aid their work, giving them time to research and time off from figuring out how to pay for it.

Fiction writer Karen Russell worked at a veterinarian clinic part-time while writing the acclaimed novel "Swamplandia." Her grant money buys her time.

"Just the idea of having a stretch of time where you can commit your time wholeheartedly to a project, nobody gets that," the New York City resident said.

For Stock, her thousands of dollars will mean one thing: People will be seeing more of her.

"This is going to let me advocate more," she said.

Lohan's mother pleads not guilty to DWI charge in NY

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. (AP)—Her license suspended, Dina Lohan left a suburban New York courthouse in a chauffeur-driven Rolls Royce on Tuesday after entering a not guilty plea on speeding and drunken driving charges.

Lohan, 50, was surrounded by a media throng usually associated with her troubled actress daughter, Lindsay, as she left a Long Island courthouse following her arraignment. She was

released without bail until her next court appearance Oct. 23.

The only apparent family member accompanying Lohan to court was her mother, Ann Sullivan.

Judge Joy Watson released Lohan without bail but ordered her driver's license suspended, citing the severity of the alleged drunken driving charge.

State police arrested Lohan on Sept. 12 after stopping her for allegedly driving 77 mph in a 55 mph zone on a Long Island parkway. Police said her blood-alcohol level was 0.20, more than double the legal limit of 0.08.

Defense attorney Mark Heller said his client has no criminal record and is a lifelong Long Island resident who has raised four children as a single mother. He did not specifically address the allegations against her, and she did not comment to reporters.

"Dina Lohan is painfully mindful of the gravity of her arrest for driving while intoxicated," he said. "I am confident that the district attorney's office and the judicial system will temper justice with mercy."

Lohan's arrest about nine miles from her Merrick, N.Y., home came just months after her 27-year-old daughter completed her sixth stint in rehab for drug and alcohol abuse.

In an interview with Oprah Winfrey this summer, the younger Lohan admitted an addiction to alcohol which she described as a gateway to other drugs. The actress' father, Michael, also has said he has dealt with drug and alcohol addiction.

Mom selling Kurt Cobain's childhood home in Wash.

ABERDEEN, Wash. (AP)—This month marks the 20th anniversary of Nirvana's final studio album, and fans aren't just able to buy a new "super deluxe" box set to celebrate the occasion. They can also buy the childhood home of late frontman Kurt Cobain, complete with his mattress.

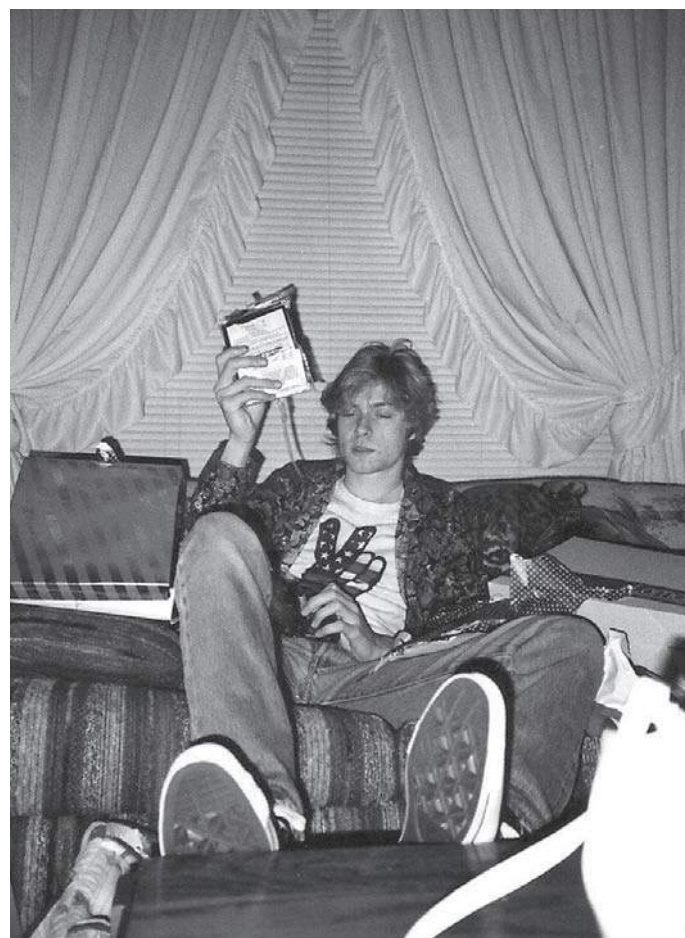
Cobain's mother, Wendy O'Connor, is putting the tired, 1.5-story bungalow two hours southwest of Seattle on the market this week.

To help sell it, the family is offering a glimpse into the early life of its tortured and talented son through photos shot at the house, including one of a chocolate-frosted birthday cake for Kurt and a shot of a teenage Cobain smiling, guitar in hand, in his messy room.

The home, last assessed at less than \$67,000, is being listed for \$500,000. It's a short walk from a riverfront park dedicated to Cobain's memory, and the family said it would welcome a partnership to make the home into a museum. His room still has the stencil-like band names—Iron Maiden, Led Zeppelin—he reportedly put on the walls, as well as the holes he put in them.

"We've decided to sell the home to create a legacy for Kurt, and yes, there are some mixed feelings since we have all loved the home and it carries so many great memories," Cobain's sister, Kim Cobain, said in an emailed statement. "But our family has moved on from Washington, and (we) feel it's time to let go of the home."

The house, a 1923 structure with dingy carpeting, water-



This undated photo provided by Kim Cobain shows a young Kurt Cobain in his childhood home in Aberdeen, Wash.

stained wooden shingles on some interior walls, and a recent coat of yellow paint, is on East 1st Street in Aberdeen, a gritty and struggling former timber town at the mouth of the Chehalis River near the southwest Washington coast.

Cobain's parents bought it in 1969, when Kurt was 2. He lived there until they separated when he was 9, and again with his mom during his later teen years.

The heroin-addicted Cobain

committed suicide in Seattle in 1994, at age 27, after a meteoric career that popularized the Pacific Northwest's heavy, muddy "grunge" rock. The last of Nirvana's three studio albums, "In Utero," came out in September 1993, and Universal Music Group has released a remastered version and a "super deluxe" box set.

Cobain described his early childhood in Aberdeen as happy. As author Charles R. Cross noted in his Cobain biography,

"Heavier Than Heaven," he would ride his bike around the small yard and pound on a set of Mickey Mouse drums his parents bought him.

In one event that entered family lore, Cobain's father, Don, trapped a rat in a garbage can in the garage. Don tried to spear it with a broomstick, but the rodent clambered up the handle, over Don's shoulder to the ground and across Kurt's toes to safety—prompting endless laughter from the 5-year-old.

But his parents' divorce scarred him deeply. At one point, he scrawled "I hate Mom, I hate Dad" on his bedroom wall, Cross wrote.

"It's a place where he had very fond memories, but it's the house where his parents got divorced," Cross said in an interview. "He couldn't wait to get away, but it's a place that helped shape who he became."

The home was last lived in by a family friend four years ago. According to The Agency, the Beverly Hills, Calif.-based luxury real estate firm marketing the property, it features the dining room table and hutch from when Cobain lived there. Cobain's mattress is tucked away in a musty upstairs crawl space.

Cobain lived in about 20 houses in his life, Cross said, and this isn't the first one offered for sale based on its connection to rock history.

In 2002, an Oregon couple bought a home in nearby Montesano for \$42,500. When they learned that Cobain had lived there with his father from 11 to 15, they sold it for \$210,000.

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ONE DIRECTION EXTENDED 3D [CC] (PG)	(440 PM)
ONE DIRECTION EXTENDED 3D [CC] (PG)	715 PM
MORTAL INSTRUMENTS 3D [CC] (PG-13)	705 PM
LEE DANIELS' THE BUTLER [CC] (NR)	(410 PM) 710 PM
PLANES [CC] (PG)	(420 PM)
PERCY JACKSON: SEA OF MONSTERS [CC] (PG)	(425 PM)
PERCY JACKSON: SEA OF MONSTERS 3D [CC] (PG)	725 PM

Times For 09/26 © 2013 www.REGmovies.com

Rogen, Goldberg to make R-rated animated film

NEW YORK (AP)—Sony Pictures will make a raunchy, R-rated animated film written by Seth Rogen and Evan Goldberg titled “Sausage Party.”

The project was announced Tuesday by Sony, which is co-financing the film with Annapurna Pictures. Writing partners Rogen and Goldberg penned the script along with Kyle Hunter and Ariel Shaffir.

“Sausage Party” is described as “one sausage’s quest to discover the truth about his existence.” After falling out of a shopping cart, the sausage journeys through a supermarket.

Directing the film will be Conrad Vernon (the co-director of “Madagascar 3”) and Greg Tieman.

Rogen and Goldberg have together written the comedies “Superbad,” “Pineapple Express,” “The Green Hornet” and “This Is the End.”

“Sausage Party” is planned for release in 2015.



This April 21, 2013 file photo shows Evan Goldberg, left, and Seth Rogen, posing on a beach as they promote their film “This is The End”, in Cancun, Mexico. AP

Calif. governor signs bill to deter paparazzi

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)—Paparazzi and others who harass the children of public figures will face tougher penalties under legislation that California Gov. Jerry Brown signed Tuesday.

The bill from state Sen. Kevin de Leon, D-Los Angeles, will boost penalties for actions that include taking photos and video of a child without parental consent and in a harassing manner.

Celebrities such as actresses Halle Berry and Jennifer Garner urged lawmakers to support SB606. Berry testified before several legislative committees that her daughter has been intimidated by photographers

who follow them daily. She said the photographers often shout while they snap pictures.

“On behalf of my children, it is my hope that this is the beginning of the end for those overly aggressive paparazzi whose outrageous conduct has caused so much trauma and emotional distress,” Berry said in a statement released by her publicist.

The measure also will help protect children of police officers and judges, and other kids who might be susceptible to harassment or unwanted attention due to their parents’ occupations, de Leon said.

Berry, who won an Academy

Award for her role in “Monster’s Ball,” said she plans to work with other professionals whose children are affected by the statute to ensure local law enforcement officials will vigorously enforce the new provisions.

Under the legislation, which takes effect in January, violators could face up to a year in county jail and a fine of up to \$10,000. Fines would increase for subsequent convictions.

The bill also allows for parents to bring a civil action against violators to seek damages and attorneys’ fees.

“Kids shouldn’t be tabloid fodder nor the target of ongoing

harassment,” de León said. He added the new law “will give children, no matter who their parents are, protection from harassers who go to extremes to turn a buck.”

Media organizations, including the California Newspaper Publishers Association, opposed the legislation, saying it was overly broad and could restrict legitimate newsgathering activities.

De León’s office says the bill does not infringe on First Amendment rights because it targets the photographer’s conduct, not the act of taking a photograph.

‘Law & Order: SVU’ returns with cliffhanger

LOS ANGELES (AP)—NBC’s “Law & Order: Special Victims Unit” will be paying tribute to its ripped-from-the-headlines heritage this season, the drama’s executive producer said.

The show returns for its 15th year at 9 p.m. EDT Wednesday, picking up on last season’s cliffhanger finale that had New York City police Detective Olivia Benson (series star Mariska Hargitay) held at gunpoint by a rapist.

It will be followed by a second new episode at 10 p.m. EDT Wednesday, this one with a story line about kidnapped girls that echoes the Ariel Castro case in Cleveland.

In upcoming episodes, a politician will run into trouble over “sexting,” while another plot will focus on a celebrity chef and the shooting of a young African-American man—an apparent mash-up of Paula Deen’s racial-slur woes and the Trayvon Martin case.

“We use headlines as a jumping off point but we utilize them as a way to explore the issues that underline these stories,” producer Warren Leight said.

Mom-to-be wants husband to join her on the wagon

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



DEAR ABBY: I’m three months pregnant. Before I got pregnant, my husband and I enjoyed having wine with dinner or a margarita when we were out on the town. We didn’t drink to excess, but have enjoyed alcohol in moderation.

Obviously, I can’t drink anymore, but my husband carries on like nothing has changed. I’m becoming resentful every time we go out to eat.

I asked him once if he’d quit drinking until our baby arrives. He looked shocked and said, “Why? I’m not pregnant.” I guess I feel left out because he’s having fun. I want him to suffer with me, and this is really getting on my nerves. Any advice?

RESENTFUL IN TENNESSEE

DEAR RESENTFUL: Yes. If you feel you are missing out on “fun” if you can’t drink, you have a potential alcohol problem. Tell your husband that when he drinks in front of you, it makes you crave alcohol, and ask again that he respect your feelings and not do it. A considerate husband and father-to-be should respect that you are doing the heavy lifting (literally) and help all he can.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I’m a 28-year-old man who was born disabled. I have not had a date in years. I’d like to date and have a girlfriend, but when women look at me, all they see is my wheelchair.

I’m a good person, well-mannered, respectful, caring and compassionate. Any advice you can offer would be appreciated.

LONELY IN ILLINOIS

DEAR LONELY: I’m glad you wrote because it’s important that you not allow yourself to be isolated. Get out and participate in activities you enjoy that include like-minded people. While you may have been born disabled, I’m sure you have abilities and talents that would be welcomed if you choose to volunteer them.

If you haven’t already, search the various online dating sites for both disabled and nondisabled individuals or contact a disability advocacy organization for guidance or to help you get access. Seek advice within the disabled community (in person or online) from individuals who have more experience with dating than you do. They can also help you navigate any physical barriers that might prevent you from dating, if that’s an issue.

There’s a saying, “Seek and ye shall find,” and it applies in your situation. I wish you the best of luck.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My husband’s much older sister has no problem calling to ask for money, but never calls just to say hello or to see how he’s doing. This has been going on for almost 10 years. She’ll tell us she or her sons need it for bills or school expenses.

He has talked to her about it, but nothing has changed. We both work hard, while she refuses to ask the children’s father for a cent. Should we continue to give her money because it may affect our nephews if we don’t?

AUNT IN THE SOUTH

DEAR AUNT: That you have tolerated this for 10 years tells me you and your husband are kindhearted and responsible people, and I respect that. However, fathers have a legal responsibility to support their children, and your sister-in-law should make sure it happens whether that involves hiring an attorney to help or applying for funds from the state to see her boys are taken care of. If you must give her money, give her enough for a consultation with an attorney because “Sissie” appears to have been using you.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in “What Every Teen Should Know.” Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Toy armadillo stolen in NY after Nelson concert

PORT CHESTER, N.Y. (AP)—A missing toy armadillo with a connection to Willie Nelson has sparked a search in the New York suburbs.

A stuffed armadillo beloved by a member of Nelson’s crew was stolen from the stage at The Capitol Theatre, in Port Chester, after a Nelson concert last Thursday, theater general manager Tom Bailey said.

Grainy video shows a woman walking onto the stage as the crew packs up, boldly grabbing

the armadillo and sauntering off with it, he said. The critter is known as Ol’ Dillo, he said, and is a treasured possession of Nelson’s monitor engineer, Aaron Foye.

Theater workers looked through more video on Tuesday in hopes of identifying the woman, Bailey said.

A posting on Nelson’s Facebook page asks for help finding the thief. And a commenter says, “We hang armadillo thieves in Texas.”

Nelson’s publicist, Elaine Schock, told The Journal News she was unaware of Ol’ Dillo and didn’t know it had been filched.

“When you go to a Willie Nelson show,” she said, “the last thing you notice is an armadillo.”

Nelson, singer of such hits as “Always on My Mind” and “On the Road Again,” postponed his Wednesday concert in Carmel, Ind., according to his website, which didn’t cite a reason.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Fitz and actress Kaylee DeFer have first child

NEW YORK (AP)—Kaylee DeFer and Fitz of Fitz and the Tantrums are the proud parents of a baby boy. The lead singer of the rock band and the “Gossip Girl” actress welcomed Theodore Ignatius Fitzpatrick on Friday. The baby weighed 8 pounds, 13 ounces. Fitz, whose real name is Michael Fitzpatrick, said the couple had a doula to help with the birth. He said DeFer was “amazing” in the delivery room. Said Fitz: “I’m so proud of Kaylee ... she is the rock star in the family.” DeFer celebrated her 27th birthday on Monday. Fitz, 43, has a few weeks at home with his new baby before his band kicks off a U.S. tour in Richmond, Va. DeFer is working on a TV pilot.

Dr. Drew Pinsky announces he had prostate cancer

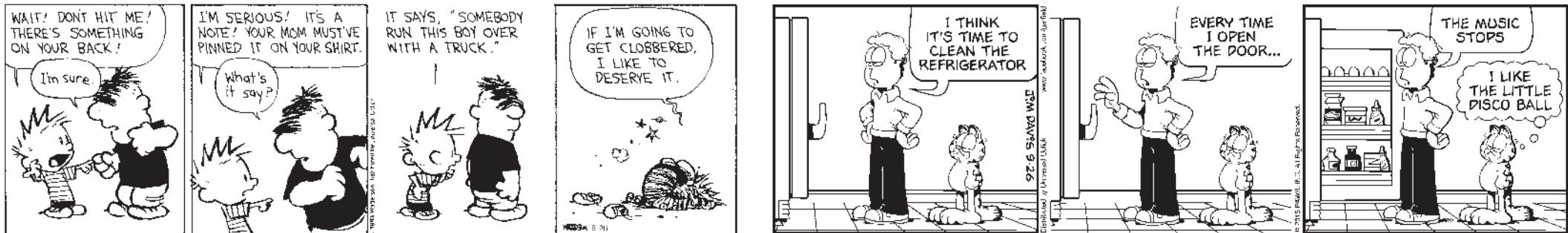
LOS ANGELES (AP)—Dr. Drew Pinsky says he had his prostate removed earlier this year after discovering he had cancer. The host of HLN’s “Dr. Drew on Call” wrote Tuesday on the network’s site that he returned to work in 10 days after having a robotic prostatectomy in July. Pinsky says he’s now cancer-free and the only remnants from his surgery are six small scars on his torso. The 55-year-old TV personality and addiction specialist hosts “Dr. Drew on Call” on HLN. He previously appeared on such TV series as “Lovelace,” “Celebrity Rehab with Dr. Drew” and “Lifechangers.” Pinsky says he’s announcing his condition to raise awareness about prostate cancer among men.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson Garfield®

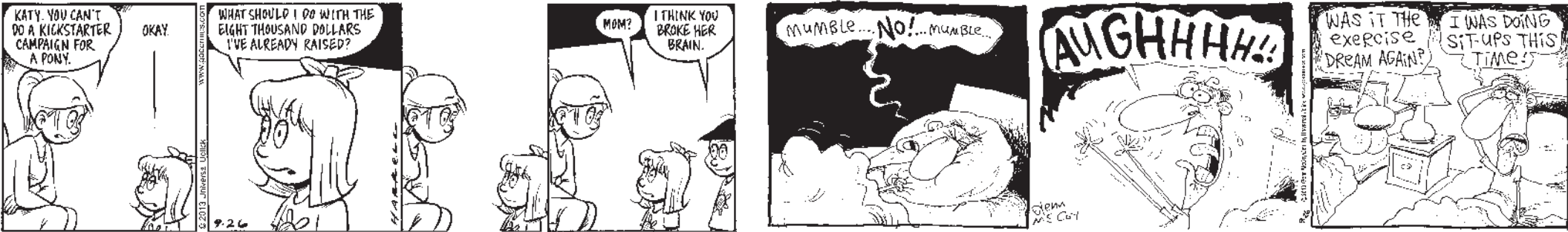
By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Scrooge's sound-track

4 Chaplin prop

8 Dogfight fighters

12 Ostrich's cousin

13 Book before Obadiah

14 "The Sultan of Swat"

15 Fearful

17 Verifiable

18 Bullring bravo

19 Its capital is Windhoek

21 Eden, e.g.

24 "Of course"

25 Past

26 Filch

28 Surfers' needs

32 So

34 Buck's mate

36 Church section

37 Art supporter

39 Symbol of intrigue

41 Super-man foe

Luthor

42 Fix the track

44 Kid-lit author

46 City of Israel

50 Distant

51 Mine entrance

52 Harsh

56 Storybook villain

57 Entrance

58 Actress

59 Burn slightly

60 Black-thorn fruit

61 James Bond, e.g.

2 "What Kind of Fool —?"

3 Funny

4 Profes-sion

5 I love (Lat.)

6 It may be a common object

7 English composition

8 Skilled worker

9 "— Your Enthusiasm"

10 Sewing kit item

11 Citi Field fore-runner

16 Anti-quoted

20 Kittenish comment

21 Airport area

22 Ottoman title

23 Affirma-tive

27 Acknowl-edge

29 Heroic applause

30 Divisible by two

31 Alluring

33 More tranquil

35 Conger, for one

38 Valentine mis-spelling

40 Preceding

43 Hitch-cock menaces

45 Scratch

46 New Mexico art colony

47 Lip

48 Old Italian money

49 String instrument

53 Sticky stuff

54 Ref

55 Express

Solution time: 25 mins.

Yesterday's answer 9-26

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Christina Milian, 32; Serena Williams, 32; Jim Caviezel, 45; Olivia Newton-John, 65.

Happy Birthday: Open up creatively. Let your imagination lead you in new directions. Voice your opinions and let your intuition guide you to success. Incorporate what you enjoy doing most into how you earn your living. Expanding what you have to offer and choosing to take on additional responsibilities will help you get ahead and explore auspicious possibilities. Your numbers are 8, 17, 26, 28, 32, 46, 49.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Emotions can interfere with a discussion. A misunderstanding is apparent, and it's best that you don't take what's said personally or retaliate in a negative way. An older, experienced individual will help you through troubled times.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Develop good relationships with the people you work with or deal with often and you will find it much easier to get information and explore new possibilities. Information regarding an opportunity will come from an unexpected source.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Keep your money and possessions locked up safely where you aren't tempted to give them away or pay for others. Keeping tabs on what everyone else does will help you size up your situation and keep you ahead of everyone around you.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Expand your interests. Make a point to engage in conversations that allow you to broaden

your views regarding people from different cultural backgrounds. By understanding where others come from and how they think, you will make better choices.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You can and should bring about positive changes, but make sure you are not doing so at someone else's expense. Favors will be granted and help given if you go through the proper channels and are considerate of those affected by your decisions.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): The information you discover will give you greater insight into the way others feel about you and what you do. An expression of affection, gratitude or even just a thank you will go a long way with regard to your relationships with others.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't be afraid to take on a few extra responsibilities. It will give others a chance to see you in action. Travel plans or pursuing information that can broaden your outlook will help you make important life changes.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Alter your living arrangements. Looking at your options and the different locations you feel add to your growth and pursuits will help you make an unusual but positive decision. Love is highlighted and a lifestyle change is in order.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Go on an adventure, whether it's to a distant land or an area of your community you have yet to explore. The individuals you meet and the information you gather will contribute to a better future. Strive to reach your comfort zone.

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Take a close look at any job you currently do. Your expertise may not always be appreciated, but it will prevent mistakes. Avoid hasty decisions and unpredictable people. Let your gut feeling be your deciding factor.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't make personal or physical changes that might limit your ability to take part in something that can affect your financial situation. Concentrate more on the fine print and what you will get out of whatever you are being offered.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Expand your interests and explore new possibilities. Relationships, your home and dealing with family matters will be successful as long as you use persuasion rather than force. Your degree of success will come from what you offer in return.

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive, adaptable and insightful. You are curious, imaginative and caring.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

Difficulty Level ★★★

9/26

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

3	1	8	6	2	9	5	4	7
4	9	5	3	7	1	2	8	6
2	7	6	4	5	8	9	3	1
1	6	9	7	3	4	8	2	5
5	8	4	9	1	2	7	6	3
7	2	3	8	6	5	4	1	9
9	3	2	1	4	7	6	5	8
6	5	7	2	8	3	1	9	4
8	4	1	5	9	6	3	7	2

WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

CHERRIES, JUBILEE Solution: 12 letters

T Y R R E H G V T S E U G S T
H S S D O O F A S U O M A F A
S W E E T V K N E G K V A I S
E D E Z A M A I I A O C R K T
R S T I U R F L P R E C I P E
F I L L I N G L F L A M E H E
E M L E M O N A L M O N D S T
R M O M E D A M E M O H S A U
D E R A E K A C L C M T Y U A
E R A R E E C I H S I D A C S
T J N A R R Q U E E N A R E W
I U G C E U A S H A T I U N H
N I E A E W O L R A C R M J I
G C M U S F S B F H E Y R O S
I Y R O T S I H C S R I K Y K

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Almonds, Amazed, Brandy, Cake, Caramelized, Cherry, Creamy, Dairy, Dish, Enjoy, Famous, Filling, Flame, Flare, Flavor, Food, Fruit, Guest, Heat, History, Homemade, Ice Cream, Ignited, Juicy, Kirsch, Lemon, Liqueur, Make, Mint, Orange, Pies, Queen, Recipe, Refresh, Rich, Rum, Sauce, Sauté, Savor, Sear, Simmer, Soft, Sugar, Sweet, Taste, Thick, Vanilla, Whisk, Zest

Yesterday's Answer: Brainstorm

To purchase THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, volumes 30 and 31 call 1-800-642-6490. Order online at wonderword.universalclick.com. (Contains 43 puzzles.)

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

Giambi's 2-run homer gives Indians 5-4 win



CLEVELAND
(AP)—Pinch-hitter Jason Giambi belted a two-run

homer with two outs in the ninth inning to give Cleveland a stunning 5-4 win over the White Sox on Tuesday night, keeping the Indians up with the lead pack in the AL wild-card race.

Giambi drove a 1-1 pitch from Addison Reed (5-4) into the lower deck in right field to save the Indians from a potentially devastating loss. Giambi's shot bailed out controversial closer Chris Perez, who gave up two homers in the top of the ninth.

As he rounded third base, the 42-year-old Giambi slowed down before being engulfed by his teammates as the Indians celebrated their 13th straight win over Chicago.

Bryan Shaw (6-3) came in after Perez had nearly given away a game the Indians couldn't afford to lose.

Rays 7, Yankees 0

In New York, Matt Moore had New York flailing for five wild innings, and the Rays beat the Yankees to push them to the brink of missing out on the postseason for the second time in 19 years.

Tampa Bay roughed up Hiroki Kuroda in tightening its grip on an AL wild-card spot with its fifth straight win. Matt Joyce had a leadoff homer as the Rays jumped ahead 3-0 in the first and David DeJesus had two RBI doubles.

Tampa Bay has a one-game lead over Cleveland for the top wild card with five to play. Texas and Kansas City played later.

The Yankees trail the Indians, who won 5-4, by five games — and also are behind the Rangers and Royals. The Yankees would be eliminated Wednesday if Cleveland wins and they lose.

Moore (16-4) gave up only three hits but threw three wild pitches to up his AL-leading total to 16 and walked six.

Tigers 4, Twins 2

In Minneapolis, Doug Fister struck out seven and the Tigers homered three times in the fourth inning to clinch a playoff berth with a victory over the Twins.

Victor Martinez and Omar Infante went back-to-back and Austin Jackson hit a two-run homer later in the fourth to put the Tigers in front. Fister (14-9) gave up two runs and eight hits in 6 1-3 innings to help Detroit secure at least an AL wild card.

Cleveland rallied to beat the Chicago White Sox 5-4 in the bottom of the ninth inning to prevent the Tigers from clinching their third straight AL Central title. One more Tigers win or Indians loss will lock it up for Detroit.

Blue Jays 3, Orioles 2, 10 innings

In Baltimore, the Toronto Blue Jays eliminated Baltimore from the playoff hunt, using two clutch RBI singles by Mark DeRosa to beat the Orioles.

Baltimore's sixth straight loss, combined with Cleveland's comeback win over the Chicago White Sox, left the Orioles six games behind the Indians for the final wild-card slot with five games left.

DeRosa singled in the tying run in the eighth inning and put the Blue Jays ahead in the 10th.

Sergio Santos (1-1) worked a perfect ninth and Casey Janssen got three outs for his 34th save.

Jose Reyes drew a one-out walk in the



Cleveland Indians' Jason Giambi reacts after hitting a two-RBI home run off Chicago White Sox relief pitcher Addison Reed in the ninth inning of a baseball game, Tuesday, Sept. 24, 2013, in Cleveland.

Toronto 10th off Francisco Rodriguez (2-1) and Munenori Kawasaki singled. Reyes appeared to be picked off second but was called safe, drawing Orioles manager Buck Showalter out to argue the call. Brett Lawrie then hit into a fielder's choice and DeRosa singled to right.

Rangers 3, Astros 2

In Arlington, Texas, Adrian Beltre homered at home for the first time in more than a month and the Texas Rangers stayed close in the wild-card race, beating Houston and sending the Astros to their 11th straight loss.

With five games left in the regular season, Texas remained a game behind Cleveland for the AL's second wild-card spot. Tampa Bay is a game ahead of the Indians in a crowded pack.

Beltre's 29th homer snapped a 2-all tie with one out in the sixth. That came after Yu Darvish gave up the lead in the top half of the inning.

Matt Dominguez homered for the Astros. Their 107th loss overall matched the franchise record set last year.

Mariners 4, Royals 0

In Seattle, Justin Smoak hit a three-run homer in the fifth inning and the Mariners beat Kansas City, putting the Royals' postseason hopes in serious jeopardy.

Mariners rookie left-hander James Paxton (3-0), making just his fourth major league start, worked a career-high seven innings, allowing four hits, walking none and striking out a career-high 10.

The playoff picture looks as bleak as it can be for the Royals (83-74). They are four games behind Cleveland for the second wild-card berth with five games to play.

The Royals' three competitors for the two wild-card spots—Tampa Bay, Texas and Cleveland — all won Tuesday. The Royals need to win every game and have both the Indians and Rangers completely collapse.

It was the 13th shutout for the Mariners and the ninth time the Royals have been shut out.

Angels 3, Athletics 0

In Anaheim, Calif., Jason Vargas earned his second shutout of the season with a four-hitter and Howie Kendrick hom-

ered, leading the Angels to a victory over the Athletics.

The Athletics, who clinched their second straight division title Sunday, remain a game behind the Red Sox for the best record in the majors following Boston's 8-3 loss at Colorado.

Vargas (9-7) threw 110 pitches, retiring 15 consecutive batters at one point and striking out five en route to his fifth shutout and 10th complete game in 153 career starts. The left-hander, who was acquired from Seattle last December for slugger Kendrys Morales, is 3-3 with a 4.64 ERA in his last nine outings after missing almost two months because of a blood clot near his armpit.

Griffin (14-10) gave up three runs and five hits over five innings.

Cardinals 2, Nationals 0

In St. Louis, Cardinals rookie Michael Wacha lost his no-hit bid on Ryan Zimmerman's infield single with two outs in the ninth inning, and St. Louis beat the Washington Nationals to close in on the NL Central title.

Making his ninth career start, Wacha came about as close as possible to finishing off the third no-hitter in the majors this season. Instead, he became the third pitcher to have a bid broken up with one out to go.

Zimmerman hit a chopper just over Wacha's glove—the pitcher said he thought it nicked his mitt—and the ball bounced slowly toward shortstop. A charging Pete Kozma grabbed it with his bare hand and whipped a throw to first that was a little wide, pulling Matt Adams off the bag just as Zimmerman arrived.

The crowd at Busch Stadium let out a loud, collective groan. Third baseman David Freese sat crouched in the infield, stunned at how close his 22-year-old teammate had come.

Wacha (4-1) was pulled after Zimmerman's hit and walked off to a huge ovation. Trevor Rosenthal got Jayson Werth to ground out for his second save.

Washington left-hander Gio Gonzalez (11-8) pitched seven effective innings, allowing two runs and six hits.

Pirates 8, Cubs 2

In Chicago, Gerrit Cole threw six strong innings, helping Pittsburgh take over the

NL wild-card lead.

The Pirates moved one game ahead of Cincinnati, which lost 4-2 to the Mets. Pittsburgh remained two games behind NL Central-leading St. Louis.

One night after clinching their first postseason spot in 21 years, Cole and the Pirates showed few signs of a let-down. Cole hit a two-run single, Pedro Alvarez drove in three runs and Jordy Mercer homered.

Cole (10-7) won his fourth straight start, giving up two runs and seven hits.

Cole's single came during a three-run second inning against Chris Rusin (2-6).

Mets 4, Reds 2

In Cincinnati, Daniel Murphy hit a three-run homer off Mike Leake, whose long streak of scoreless innings got shattered early, and the Mets dealt the Reds a costly setback to their hopes of a second straight NL Central title.

The Reds and Pirates clinched playoff spots on Monday night, but hope to chase down first-place St. Louis with closing surges. Leake's one very bad inning made that much less likely for Cincinnati.

Leake (14-7) gave up four runs and eight hits in only 1 2-3 innings, matching the shortest start of his career. Wilfredo Tovar ended his scoreless innings streak at 21 2-3 with an RBI single, and Murphy's homer gave left-hander Jon Niese (8-8) the big lead.

Niese allowed two runs and eight hits in seven innings. Vic Black faced three batters in the ninth, getting his first career save on his second try.

Braves 3, Brewers 2

In Atlanta, Andrelton Simmons hit a game-ending RBI single with two out in the ninth, lifting the Braves to the victory.

Justin Upton sparked the winning rally with a leadoff single against Donovan Hand (0-5). Upton advanced on Evan Gattis' one-out grounder that Scooter Gennett bobbled behind second base for an infield hit. After Brian McCann popped out, Simmons' first hit of the night ended the game.

Craig Kimbrel (4-3), who leads the majors with 49 saves, struck out the side in the ninth.

Jeff Bianchi hit his first homer of the

season in the fifth for Milwaukee.

Phillies 2, Marlins 1

In Miami, Darin Ruf and Kevin Frandsen each drove in a run in the first inning, and the Phillies handed the Marlins their 100th loss of the season.

It's the second triple-digit-loss season in Marlins history, joining the 108-defeat year in 1998. Mike Redmond, the first-year Marlins manager, was a rookie on that team, playing in 37 games.

Ruf drew a bases-loaded walk, Frandsen followed with an RBI groundout and that was all the offense that the Phillies would need. Michael Stutes (3-1) got the win by working a scoreless fifth inning in relief, and Jonathan Papelbon pitched the ninth for his 29th save in 36 chances.

Marlins starter Henderson Alvarez (4-6) allowed five hits and struck out five in seven innings. Justin Ruggiano had two hits for Miami, one of them an RBI double where he was thrown out at third.

Diamondbacks 2, Padres 1, 12 innings

In San Diego, Didi Gregorius tripled home the tiebreaking run in the 12th inning to lift the Diamondbacks over the Padres.

Paul Goldschmidt hit his NL-best 36th homer for the Diamondbacks, extending his hitting streak to 14 games and increasing his league-leading RBI total to 124.

Gregorius tripled down the right-field line against Luke Gregerson (6-8) to score fellow rookie Chris Owings, who doubled with one out.

Josh Collmenter (5-4) pitched a perfect inning and Brad Ziegler got three outs for his 12th save.

The Diamondbacks set a major league record for most extra innings played in a season with 79. Arizona, which is 17-7 in extra-inning games, broke the record of 76 set by the 1969 Minnesota Twins.

Dodgers 2, Giants 1

In San Diego, Hyun-Jin Ryu and two relievers combined on a five-hitter that sent the Dodgers past the Giants.

Matt Kemp hit a tiebreaking home run leading off the sixth inning for the Dodgers. Yasiel Puig also homered after getting hit by a pitch from Giants starter Matt Cain earlier in the game.

Carl Crawford added three hits for the NL West champions, who have won three straight.

Tony Abreu homered for San Francisco. The Giants got just one runner past first base and were held to no more than one run for the third time in four games.

Rockies 8, Red Sox 3

In Denver, Charlie Blackmon hit his first career leadoff homer and Tyler Chatwood pitched seven strong innings, leading Colorado to the victory.

John Lackey (10-13) struggled on the road again, allowing four runs and six hits in six innings. The right-hander is 1-5 away from Fenway Park since the All-Star break.

Lackey also gave up solo homers to Troy Tulowitzki and Corey Dickerson.

Chatwood (8-5) shut down a potent Red Sox lineup, yielding an unearned run and three hits.

Jarrod Saltalamacchia hit a two-run homer in the ninth for AL East champion Boston.

Source: Pacers, George agree to new contract



INDIANAPOLIS (AP)—Paul George wanted to keep playing in Indiana. Larry Bird made sure he wasn't going anywhere.

The Pacers star forward agreed Tuesday to a long-term contract, according to a person with knowledge of the deal who spoke on condition of anonymity because it won't be officially announced until Wednesday. Terms were not immediately available, but he is eligible for a five-year deal worth between \$80 million to \$90 million, depending on the salary cap.

George's rookie deal was set to expire after next season and the 23-year-old All-Star almost certainly would have been one of most attractive players on the free-agent market. There was speculation the Los Angeles area native might return to California and team up with Kobe Bryant to restore the luster to the Lakers proud franchise.

But publicly and behind the scenes, George repeatedly said his sole intention was to win a championship with the Pacers.

Bird was so determined to get the

deal done before training camp opened Saturday that he left his golf clubs at home Monday instead of playing in the annual Pacers Foundation outing. Instead, he returned to the office to continue negotiating.

"It's always good to have the leverage, but the number has got to be the number we both like and that's what it's all about," Bird said then. "It's all about money. Yes, he wants to be here. He's told me that a million times. We want him here, so let's just find a number for both."

By Tuesday afternoon, everything fell into place and the Pacers get a cornerstone player for the future.

The 6-foot-8 forward has made dramatic improvement in each of his first three NBA seasons.

He was a key player off the bench as a rookie, then emerged as a solid starter in his second season and last year averaged career-highs of 17.4 points, 7.6 rebounds and 4.6 assists. George's numbers actually increased during the playoffs as he led Indiana past Atlanta and New York and into the Eastern Conference finals. The Pacers pushed the defending champs to Game 7 be-

fore eventually losing at Miami.

He was a third-team All-NBA selection, a second-team all-defensive pick, was named the league's most improved player and earned a second straight trip to USA Basketball camp this summer. But all he really wanted to do keep was win a title with the team that brought him into the league and is convinced he's going to become one of the game's most complete stars.

"I think there's a tremendous amount of upside," coach Frank Vogel said Monday. "He's probably the best wing defender in the game already and he's only 23, and when you have the work ethic and drive he has, there's tremendous upside there."

Signing George also means the Pacers will keep their core group for at least three more years.

Last summer, center Roy Hibbert and point guard George Hill both signed lucrative, long-term deals. Power forward David West joined the club this summer when he agreed to a three-year, \$36 million deal. Now George is locked up, too.

The contracts of two other key players—shooting guard Lance Stephen-



AP
In this May 16, 2013 file photo, Indiana Pacers' Paul George shoots against the New York Knicks in the first half of Game 5 of their NBA basketball playoff series in the Eastern Conference semifinals at Madison Square Garden in New York.

son and former NBA All-Star Danny Granger—are set to expire after next season. Stephenson will become a restricted free agent because he's still on his rookie deal.

But for a team that came within two games of taking out Miami in the 2012 playoffs and one win last year and now believes it significantly upgraded its bench, getting the George deal might

be the last big piece to the championship puzzle.

"There's no doubt we've got a great core here," Vogel said. "Roy is going to be here, George (Hill) is going to be here, David West is going to be here, hopefully, Lance and Danny will be here for years to come. But when you have Paul as one of your core pieces, that's a pretty good place to start."

Sources: NBA set for NY-NY All-Star in 2015

NEW YORK (AP)—The 2015 NBA All-Star weekend will be split between two New York arenas, with Madison Square Garden to host the game, two people with knowledge of the plans said Tuesday.

Barclays Center in Brooklyn will host the Saturday skills events, the people confirmed to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the plans were to be announced at a press conference Wednesday.

Commissioner David Stern, Deputy Commissioner Adam Silver and New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg will

attend the press conference, along with officials from Madison Square Garden and Barclays Center.

The league has been working with the Knicks and Nets for months on the plan to split the events. The New York Post first reported that MSG would host the Sunday night game.

The league last split sites for its midseason showcase in 2010, when the Saturday events were in the Dallas Mavericks' arena and the game was held at the Cowboys' stadium.

The slam dunk and 3-point contests are the highlights of the Saturday

night events.

The game last came to Madison Square Garden in 1998 and has gone exclusively to warm-weather cities in recent years. Now it will come back to New York a year after the city hosts the Super Bowl and show off two top arenas.

MSG is one of the most famous arenas in sports and has undergone a three-year renovation project. The \$1 billion Barclays Center opened a year ago and has quickly landed many top entertainment events.

The 2014 All-Star game is set for New Orleans.

Injuries quickly adding up early in NFL season



PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Jeremy Maclin would've been a perfect complement to DeSean Jackson in Chip Kelly's offense—if he wasn't hurt.

The wide receiver was one of four Philadelphia Eagles to tear an ACL in training camp. The Eagles really felt Maclin's absence in last week's loss to Kansas City. Jackson was held to just three catches after having 16 receptions for 297 yards and two touchdowns in the first two games.

"We never look at it if we had Jeremy Maclin, it's a different situation," Kelly said Tuesday. "I don't think it's productive to think about it that way. It's not going to change. Mac isn't coming back until next year."

Several NFL teams face similar problems. Replacing important starters with capable backups often can be the difference between missing the playoffs and playing in January. It's not always the best teams that win in the end, but the healthiest ones with the most depth.

ACL injuries are perhaps the most significant because they're season-ending and require a longer recovery time, but plenty of other body parts besides the knee are knocking players out of the lineup.

Here are five common injuries put-



AP
Chicago Bears defensive tackle Henry Melton (69) is taken off the field on a cart after being injured in the third quarter of an NFL football game against the Pittsburgh Steelers in Pittsburgh, Sunday, Sept. 22, 2013.

ting players on the sideline:

ACL/KNEE: A torn anterior cruciate ligament used to be a devastating injury. Modern medicine changed that, and many players come back and perform at a high level. Check Adrian Peterson. Still, it's a big deal because guys are out for the year.

Packers left tackle Bryan Bulaga, Chargers wide receiver Danario Alexander, Giants free safety Stevie Brown, Broncos center Dan Koppen, Colts

defensive tackle Brandon McKinney and Dolphins tight end Dustin Keller were among those who tore ACLs in the summer.

Since the season opener, Steelers center Maurkice Pouncey and running back LaRod Stephens-Howling, Colts running back Vick Ballard, Panthers guard Garry Williams and Bears defensive tackle Henry Melton joined the list.

Ravens wide receiver Jacoby Jones,

Lions running back Reggie Bush and Cowboys defensive end Anthony Spencer also have been sidelined by other knee injuries this season.

CONCUSSION: Raiders quarterback Terrell Pryor had his best passing day before leaving Monday night's loss to Denver with a concussion. It's uncertain when Pryor will return, but his concussion isn't as severe as the one that ended the season for Bills quarterback Kevin Kolb.

Texans wide receiver Andre Johnson, Packers tight end Jermichael Finley and running back Eddie Lacy, Eagles cornerback Bradley Fletcher, Redskins safety Brandon Meriweather, Panthers cornerback Josh Thomas, Bengals defensive end Michael Johnson, Giants cornerback Prince Amukamara, Chargers right tackle D.J. Fluker and 49ers safety Eric Reid are among those who've suffered concussions so far.

HAMSTRING: Clay Matthews became the latest Packers player to injure a hamstring during a 34-30 loss to Cincinnati on Sunday. He joins safety Morgan Burnett, cornerback Casey Hayward and fullback John Kuhn, causing coach Mike McCarthy to joke that the "Wisconsin diet" must be a factor for the team's spate of hamstring pulls.

There are varying degrees of hamstring injuries. Falcons running back

Steven Jackson already missed one game and could be out a few more. Cardinals wide receiver Larry Fitzgerald played through his the past two weeks, but his production dropped significantly.

Eighteen players listed on last week's injury report had hamstring injuries, including 49ers tight end Vernon Davis, Saints right guard Jahri Evans and Dolphins safety Chris Clemons. Cowboys wide receiver Miles Austin, Bills cornerback Leodis McKelvin, Vikings safety Jamarca Sanford and Jets running back Chris Ivory were added to that group over the weekend.

FOOT: Chargers linebacker Manti Te'o and Steelers running back Le'Veon Bell still haven't made their NFL debuts because of foot injuries. Bill safety Jairus Byrd also missed the first three games with a foot problem, and Falcons linebacker Sean Weatherspoon will miss two months. Broncos left tackle Ryan Clady went down for the season with a Lisfranc tear in his left foot, and Cardinals linebacker Lorenzo Alexander is out for the year because a torn ligament in his right foot.

ANKLE: There were 22 players listed with ankle injuries last week. Falcons wide receiver Roddy White and Jaguars running back Maurice Jones-Drew played through theirs, while Steelers cornerback Cortez Allen, Chiefs tight end Anthony Fasano, Colts safety LaRon Landry and Redskins tight end Fred Davis sat out.

Rotary Basketball League U15 Finals

PHOTOS BY ROSELYN B. MONROYO



DYS' Antonio Santos wrestles the ball away from KFC/Taco Bell's Jun Fidelino.



KFC/Taco Bell's Marc Ogasawara goes up for a shot against two DYS defenders.



KFC/Taco Bell's Wilfredo Francisco D.J. Ong battle for the loose ball.



DYS' D.J. Ong pulls up for a baseline jumper.



KFC/Taco Bell's Jun Fidelino pulls up for a short jumper against DYS' Gerald Flores.



DYS' Sam Darag drives against KFC/Taco Bell's Jun Fidelino.



KFC/Taco Bell's C.J. Morales is challenged by DYS' Antonio Santos.



KFC/Taco Bell's Dicky Fera, kneeling, fights for ball possession against DYS' Gerald Flores.



DYS' Warren Ellama, third from left, bumps into KFC/Taco Bell's Jun Fidelino at the baseline.



DYS' Kobe Mendoza unloads a triple.



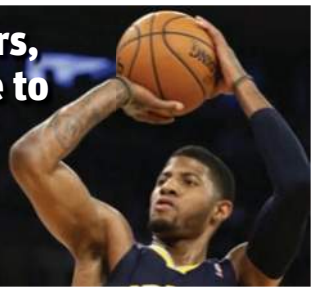
Giambi's 2-run
homer gives
Indians in
5-4 win

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Source: Pacers,
George agree to
new contract

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

28 THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2013

Braves move up to solo top spot



A Braves batter reaches in for a bunt during an earlier game in the 2nd Annual DYS/Triple A Youth Baseball League at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Braves avoided the Tigers' claws after pulling off a 9-8 win in the second round of the 2nd Annual DYS/Triple A Youth Baseball League last Tuesday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Venue inspection, no practice for Teen Ayuyus

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



The Braves improved to an 8-1 record and went ahead by a win against the Padres after launching a comeback against the Tigers in the last two and a half innings. The Braves were down, 3-8, after four and a half innings when they began the rally at the bottom of the

See BRAVES on Page 26



After more than two days traveling to Wuhan, China, the CNMI U16 National Team settled for a site visit instead of a practice before its scheduled game against the host squad in the kick-off day of the AFC

U16 Qualifying Tournament.

Team manager Wes Bogdan in an email to *Saipan Tribune* said the squad and some of its officials arrived in Wuhan separately last Tuesday afternoon and evening due to the cancellation of their flights from Guangzhou last Monday.

"There has been no opportunity to practice since we arrived here in Wuhan, but the team is fine, the players are

very excited," said Bogdan, who joined the Teen Ayuyus, coach Johann Noetzel, and assistant coach Jerishwin Angeles in visiting the Hankou Culture and Sports Stadium yesterday morning.

"It's raining lightly in Wuhan. The pitch is relatively fine as they are draining it nicely," the team manager added.

The site inspection came less than 24 hours before the Teen Ayuyus played

See VENUE on Page 26



The CNMI U16 National Team players and officials pose for a photo at the Hankou Culture and Sports Stadium in Wuhan, China yesterday morning.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Su Hea Jin is flanked by Marie Candado, left, and Gloria Omechelang during the awards ceremony for the Saipan Bowling Association Budweiser September Queen of the Lanes last Monday at the Saipan Bowling Center.

Returnee wins debut in SBA

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Returnee Su Hea Jin competed in the Saipan Bowling Association Budweiser Queen of the Lanes for the first time this season and won the September roll-offs held last Sunday and Monday at the Saipan Bowling Center.

Su joined the last day of the September tournament and collected 779 pinfalls to surpass the score of Day 1 leader Gloria Omechelang, who slid to third after Marie Candado snuck into second place. Su, who last won the monthly competition in September 2006, stunned her competition right from the get-go when she gained 219 pinfalls in Game 1. Su was the

only player in her field to post at least 200 pinfalls and she had another impressive roll-off in Game 3 (201) to go with her 174 and 185 in the two other games. The eventual winner went on to take a 63-pinfal win over Candado and averaged 194.75.

Candado also bowled last Monday and had an inconsistent showing in the first three games (184, 179, and 160) before tallying 193 in Game 4 to dislodge Omechelang from the second spot. Omechelang had a roller-coaster performance in the first day of the roll-off, but her 191 and 200 in Games 1 and 3 were enough to compensate for her 154 and 160 in the two other games and give her the temporary lead. The veteran kegler logged 705 pinfalls in Day 1 to lead eventual

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